

Let's talk about water

**Cinema Chambord
283 Avenue du Prado
World Water Forum 6
Marseille, France
March 13–16, 2012
(Free)**

Tuesday, March 13, 2012

(1:00 p.m.) p. 10

**Composition Chimique
de L'Eau (The Chemical
Composition of Water)**

Eaux D'Artifice

Marseille

L'Eau (Water)

**Carnets d'Eau (Water
Diaries)**

(4:00 p.m.)

Gasland

(7:00 p.m.)

**Coeur Fidele (Faithful
Heart)**

Wednesday, March 14, 2012

(1:00 p.m.) p. 14

Gasland

(4:00 p.m.)

La Tunisie (Tunisia)

**Mediterraneo Attivo
(Active Mediterranean)**

(7:00 p.m.)

Ar(r) ête

Louisiana Story

Thursday, March 15, 2012

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Beaux Arts-Geography ("Oasis")

Moi Sekou, Mon Exile, Mon Village, Mon Combat (The Life and Struggle of Sekou: Exile and Return)

(4:00 p.m.)

We Are All Connected

Amazonie, Ultime Frontiere (Amazon: The Final Frontier)

(7:00 p.m.)

Gasland

Friday, March 16, 2012

(10:00 a.m.) p. 20

Carte Blanche

(1:00 p.m.)

Award Winners – International "Water and Film" Events

(4:00 p.m.)

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(7:00 p.m.)

Carte Blanche

Dear Friends,

My name is Linda Lilienfeld and I have been a film and picture researcher for 35 years, specializing in science and history. In 1992, at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City I worked on an exhibit and book called “Global Warming: Forecasting the Future” and boy, was I shocked! I mean, I’m from Brooklyn – what did I care for plants and animals?! But then I realized it was real, it was serious, and we had to do something about it. Now 20 years later, I have created a traveling film seminar called *Let’s Talk About Water* to focus on water and science.

Why Water? Water knits it all together, air, plants, animals, earth – we all live in a watershed. Why Science? Scientists understand that glaciers are melting, climate and weather patterns are changing, sea levels are rising. These conditions will have a huge impact on human populations. We need to better understand the language of scientists.

So I have crafted a film program that touches on these subjects in a variety of ways:

a) Historic: Looking at old footage of Marseille and Victorian-era scientists conducting

experiments might remind us that it took millions of years for our earth, in its present form, to provide us with exquisite nature and abundant ecosystem services, and only less than two hundred years for us to destroy it.

b) **Artistic:** From the gardens of the Villa d'Este to the port of Marseille, to the bayous of Louisiana, the poetic nature of water influences filmmakers to tell stories – whether *avant garde* or silent or spoken narratives. They enable us to feel the pulse of life that is water.

c) **Scientific:** With an example from the Institute of Geophysics and Vulcanology in Italy, a look at the history of the Mediterranean Sea puts into context the tremendous power, protective and destructive of the forces of nature.

d) **Political:** Putting new technologies like GPS in the hands of indigenous people in the Amazon, or documenting people in the United States who can light their drinking water on fire possibly due to hydraulic “fracking” – which is coming soon to your neighborhoods of Europe – these images can empower us to know that each one of us can make a difference. We need information!

e) **A sense of place:** whether the films are old or new, scientific or political, artistically *avant garde* or melodramatic – a sense of place unites us all. From the shifting sands of the Sahel, to the Old Port of Marseille, to the mountains of the American West, we are all connected. It is up to us.

There will be time after the first two showings each day for discussions with researchers and scientists. This may sound boring but we plan to make it lively and fun, giving lots of time for audience participation in many languages and we hope you all continue the conversation long after. *Let's talk about water!*

water science:
www.cuahsi.org

film and water competition:
www.riec-iwfe.org

Let's Talk About Water art exhibition:
www.galerie-sordini.com

www.letstalkaboutwater.com

Tuesday, March 13, 2012

(1:00 p.m.)

Composition Chimique de L'Eau (The Chemical Composition of Water)

The chemical composition of the water molecule H₂O is what enables it to be a gas, a liquid and a solid. We will see the process of electrolysis separating the H's from the O, and then back again. Water as matter, matters. That's why we are here at the World Water Forum 6! (France, Gaumont Pathé Archives, 1910–1919, 5:21 minutes)

Eaux D'Artifice Kenneth Anger

"Hide and seek in a night-time labyrinth of levels, cascades, balustrades, grottoes and ever-gushing leaping fountains, until the Water Witch and the Fountain become one."
(Kenneth Anger)

The pulsing and rhythmic movement of the

fountains and the character in the gardens capture the motion of water from the mountains, to the streams, to the rivers to the sea. Water as matter and movement. Water as a character. (USA, Music by Vivaldi, 1953, 13 minutes)

Marseille

Here we are in Marseille in the present. But on screen we will see Marseille in the past, between 1915–1920 with its port, streets, monuments, people, and beautiful light. Marseille is France, Provence, but also the Mediterranean. The city has inspired many films including: *Fievre* (Louis Delluc), *The Fanny Trilogy* (Marcel Pagnol), *Le Rendez-vous des Quais* (Paul Carpita) and *Justin de Marseille* (Maurice Touneur) amongst many others. (France, Gaumont-Pathe-Archives, 1915–1920, 9:45 minutes)

L'Eau (Water)

In this short, lively film, we see water in its many forms and functions from the four corners of the world. (France, Gaumont-Pathe-Archives, 1938, 3:27 minutes)

Carnets d'Eau (Water Diaries)

Nathalie Kertchef (director) and Marielle Gros – Airelles Video (producer)

This documentary film was made by students (age 18–25) from France and Quebec and focuses on water management in Provence. The students documented their experiences and impressions of Provence on a blog (carnetdevoyage.quebec.over-blog.com) and video. (France, 2009, 50 minutes)

Discussion: Art, beauty and water: How to communicate effectively about the science of water.

Silent films will be accompanied by Alexandre Wimmer

(4:00 p.m.)

Gasland

Josh Fox

“The largest domestic natural gas drilling boom in history has swept across the United States. The Halliburton-developed drilling technology of ‘fracking’ or hydraulic fracturing has unlocked a ‘Saudi Arabia of natural gas’ just beneath us. But is fracking safe? When filmmaker Josh Fox is asked to lease his land for drilling, he embarks on a cross-country odyssey uncovering a trail of secrets, lies and contamination. A recently

drilled nearby Pennsylvania town reports that residents are able to light their drinking water on fire. His inquiries led him ever deeper into a web of secrets, lies, conspiracy and contamination – a web that potentially threatens the New York Watershed. Part verite travelogue, part expose, part mystery, part bluegrass banjo meltdown, part showdown. *Gasland* races to find answers about fracking before it’s too late.” (gaslandthemovie.com) (USA, 2010, 107 minutes)

Discussion: The water and energy connection; What happens to ground water during hydraulic fracking? What are the true costs of extracting natural gas this way? What are the consequences when this new process is exported to Europe?

Other screenings:

Wednesday, March 14, 1:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 15, 7:00 p.m.

(7:00 p.m.)

Coeur Fidele (Faithful Heart)

Jean Epstein

Cine-concert by Alexandre Wimmer

A silent melodrama set in Marseille, but not

simply that: A cinematic wonder. “In water, crystals grow, beautiful as Venus, born as she was, full of the most secret graces, symmetries & correspondences. Games of Heavens, thus, worlds fall – from where? Into a light space.” (Jean Epstein)

“In it they [the public] found all of the modern poetry, the port of Marseille, the quays, the boats, the dirty rooms, . . . that world that was one of the great inspiring themes of the literature of that day and which was to add to the films splendor.” (From Cahiers du Cinema, no. 24 June 1953, by Henri Langlois) (France, 1923, 85 minutes)

Wednesday,

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(1:00 p.m.)

Gasland

Josh Fox

(See 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 13, 2012)

(4:00 p.m.)

La Tunisie (Tunisia)

A look at the port of Sfax across from Marseille – another world, another time, yet connected by the same body of water. Where did that salt come from? (France, Gaumont-Pathe-Archives, 1925, 17:49 minutes)

Mediterraneo Attivo (Active Mediterranean)

Marco Anzidei, Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia

“The Mediterranean is an area of the Earth that has particularly preserved traces of the past evolutionary processes of our planet. Its geological history, conditioned by the movements of the African and Eurasian continental plates . . . led to the formation of mountain ranges that border the basin, which reaches depths well over 5000 m. Today the Mediterranean is not only a vital hydrological system for more than 30 million people who live along its shore, but also one of the most complex tectonic areas on Earth. This

area is still experiencing major geophysical and geodynamic processes and is a natural laboratory for scientists to measure its physical and chemical parameters. Volcanic eruptions and earthquakes indicate that this region is among the most active areas of the Earth, where major disasters occurred throughout its history. The major tectonic and climate variations have caused large sea level changes, capable of drying up the entire Mediterranean basin or flooding the Black Sea, thus influencing human activity throughout history.” (Marco Anzidei) (Italy, 2009, 52 minutes)

Discussion: Water and the Mediterranean: special problems, special solutions

(7:00 p.m.)

Ar(r) été

Sylvain Blond, Julien Cail, Quentin Ricci
An animated fisheye view that could be a metaphor for the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. (France, 2005, 3 minutes)

Louisiana Story

Robert J. Flaherty

Nominated for an Oscar and winner of the Pulitzer Prize for its musical score, Robert J. Flaherty’s (*Nanook of the North*, *Man of Aran*) last masterpiece is a visually stunning, lyrical tribute to a land and its people. A poetic vision of nature and the human spirit fills every frame of this amazing film. Through the eyes of a young Cajun boy living on the bayou, Flaherty tells a story of disruption and change when an oil rig brings industry into this pristine world! The film was funded by Esso (now Exxon) and they rejected the final version. Exquisitely shot by the late Richard Leacock, who also made *Primary* and *Jazz Dance*. (USA, 1948, 79 minutes)

Thursday,
March 15,
2012
(1:00 p.m.)

Beaux Arts-Geography (“Oasis”)

A close up view of life at an Oasis. (France, Gaumont-Pathe-Archives, 1920’s?, 5 minutes)

Moi Sekou, Mon Exile, Mon Village, Mon Combat (The Life and Struggle of Sekou: Exile and Return)

Eric Mounier (director) and IRD (producer)
“Sekou Bathily is an elevator repairman in Paris and he only has one goal in mind: To save Boda, his village in Mali, which is under threat of disappearing because of deforestation. Every year, he takes advantage of his holiday to visit his family in Mali. But this time, following the advice of scientists he met in Paris, he has decided to travel around Mali in pursuit of solutions to fight desertification. From Tombouctou to the south of the country, Sekou’s ‘investigative trip’ gives us the opportunity to measure the threat (or ‘damage’) of this scourge and how to remedy it.” (IRD.org) (France, 2004, 52 minutes)

Discussion: The Sahel, the oasis, desertification, deforestation and the power of an individual’s courage.

(4:00 p.m.)

We Are All Connected

Mato Atom (Director) and World Wildlife Fund (producer) (Mexico, 2011, 60 seconds)

Amazonie, Ultime Frontiere (Amazon: The Final Frontier)

Alexandre Valenti (director) and SHK (producer)

The Amazon is considered the “lungs” of the world and Amazon River runs through it. With deforestation, fires and overgrazing, the Amazon is being destroyed. But the government of Brazil has taken the lead on protecting this vast resource. Government agencies are working together with local communities to develop an effective model of resource protection. One that includes new technologies and putting these tools in the hands of the local people. And it ultimately protects water! (France, 2010, 90 minutes)

Discussion: Water around world; using new technologies for resource protection; government and communities working together; and making technology accessible to Indigenous communities.

(7:00 p.m.)

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Carte Blanche

Acknowledgements

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Alida, Mishka
and Andras

All the filmmakers
and distributors and
all the wonderful
people who created
the World Water
Forum 6 and to
that enchanting
city – Marseille.

Barbara Avila

Mary Baron

Agnes Bertola

Camille Bitaud

Catherine Boutet

Ruth Bradley

Martin van
Broekhoven

Serge Dentin

Chantal Dussuel

Evelyne Farkas

Frantic Fran

Emilia Gianfortoni

Gayle Gibbons

Marielle Gros

Rick Hooper

Brad Ireland

Asa Johnson

Tom Johnson

Raymond Jost

Mme. Lavielle and
All at the Cinema
Chambord

Johan Meerkerk

Dick Moeskin

Noori

M. Jean-Louis Oliver

Alexandre Otte

Manuela Paduan

Andre Paquet

Peggy Parsons

The Research Crowd
from Marseille

Pierre-Alain Roche

Rose Sales

Stefania Sandrone

Franco Siccardi and
all the other speakers

Mira-Bai Simon

Maggie White

Alexandre Wimmer

Becky White

Ezra Vazquez-d'Amico

overleaf:
The Harbor, Marseilles, France
(detail), c. 1900, Library of Congress,
Prints and Photographs Division,
Photochrom Collection, LC-DIG-
ppmsc-05117

