



## **ART & CULTURE**

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## ART & CULTURE

### **Drugs And Creation: A History Of Artificial Paradises (2x52') - HD**

Lufilms / Arte / 2014

Directed by Jerome de Missolz

Languages available: French & English

Broadcasters: Arte



For centuries, artists from all walks of life will inquire on the use of drugs which fascinates them most and will faithfully attempt to transpose their effects through artistic outputs. From Thomas de Quincey to Basquiat, the documentary portrays art history differently. It narrates it using a fresco which traces back up to two centuries ago the relationship between artists and drugs. Fantasy relationship or life experience?

The first episode, *The Quest for another World* acting as a sort of "Golden Age of Artificial Paradises", from the romantics to the surrealists.

The second one, *The Great Savage Danse*, starting after World War One with hallucinogenic artists such as Huxley, Michaux and the Beat Generation, will bring us to the psychedelic revolution—democratisation phase of drug access—taking us all the way to contemporary artists.

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### **Fashioning Religion (52') – HD**

French Connection / 2016

Directed by Julie Valérie Deschênes

Languages available: French & English subtitles

Broadcasters: KTO



How are religious garbs conceived and made? In what way do they reflect the Christian cult regarding the aesthetic of the suavitas of the Church Fathers? This film delves into this passionate, yet little-known, bond between the liturgical world and the contemporary artistic world.

The medieval inspirations of Filippo Sorcinelli, the rainbow of Jean-Charles de Castelbajac and the Art Deco chasubles of the Sain-Wandrille monks all embody these combined impetuses in search of beauty. Anne-Sophie is embroidering in silence for future priests, Jean and Gerard are taking care of religious Visitandine fabrics from which they know every single story...

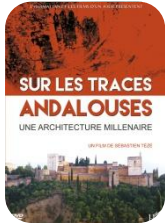
## **In The Footsteps of Andalusians: A One-Thousand-Year-Old Architecture (52') – HD**

Films d'un Jour / 2015

Directed by Sébastien Tézé

Languages available: French

Broadcasters: Berber TV



Andalusia is a territory on which Islam and Christianity have fought ruthless battles. Between the 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries, successive conquests enabled various Arab and Berber dynasties from the Middle East and the Maghreb to bring in their culture and know-how in Spain. This territory named "Al Andalus" witnessed the rise of a new architectural style combining Visigoth, Roman, Byzantine and Arab elements. This documentary allows us to uncover a one-thousand-year-old architecture which represents an exceptional architectural heritage.

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## **Interstitial Spaces (52') - HD**

AAA Productions / 2012

Directed by Damien Faure

Languages available: Japanese with English & French subtitles

Broadcasters: France Ô



«Interstitial Spaces» assesses the latest paradigms in contemporary architecture, more precisely on the overwhelming demographic growth issue. For several years in Japan, a noteworthy architectural phenomenon aiming at redefining urban space was undertaken. Instead of building structures always higher and higher, Japanese architects try to make the best out of the available existing space.

Yoshiharu Tsukamoto, one of the Bow-Wow workshop founders, helped us find meaning in these architectural projects: if buildings can be considered as human beings, then small structures wedged between the interstices of the city can be compared to domestic animals of the urban space. Thus, Yoshiharu Tsukamoto decided to call these small properties "Pets Architecture". This documentary stands as a detailed description of these buildings which have disseminated in Tokyo for in recent years. Along with a raven acting as a guide, the viewers will be weaving in and out the interstices of the city enabling them to have a better understanding through a full 3D perspective.

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## **Marguerite Yourcenar, Landscape Alchemy (52') – HD**

Les Docs du Nord / Pictanovo / 2013

Directed by Jacques Lœuille

Language available: French

Broadcasters: France 3



First woman elected to the "Académie française", Marguerite Yourcenar is less known as a pioneer of ecology. More than a simple pattern, the landscape is a real source of inspiration for the writer. Flanders of her childhood serve as a backdrop for her "Archives du Nord". Her love for Flemish painting, and landscape painted by Brueghel and Bosch will be at the heart of "The Abyss".

From the Mount Desert Island in the United States where she lived for over 50 years, she did not cease to assert her commitment to the Environmental protection and the living world.

## **Mustang: The Kingdom Of Peasant Painters (52') – HD**

Via Découvertes / 2015

Directed by Corinne Glowacki

Languages available: French

Broadcasters: France 5, RTS, RTV Slovenija



Long closed to foreigners due to its proximity to Chinese Tibet, the treasures of this kingdom were only discovered ten years ago. Luigi Fieni, a renowned Italian painter of sacred art was put in charge of restoring the temple paintings of the capital. There he met exceptional men and women, with incredible freedom of movement, living in harmony with the seasons and adapting to the changes in their society in a remarkable fashion.

Faced with the enormity of the challenge, he had the idea of asking for their help. From simple farmers, he turned them into artists, as they gradually rediscovered another world, the culture of their ancestors. A crazy idea turned out to be the most beautiful adventure not just for Luigi but especially for the 40 or so Mustangi men and women. Following the rhythm of the seasons, we tell the story of this unique human experience as the Mustang changes along with these peasant painters' lives.

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## **Puppets From Around the World (6x52') – HD**

Acrobates Films / 2012-2014

Directed by Jean-Robert Thomann, Marie-Laure Désidéri & Christian Argantino

Languages available: French

Broadcasters: TV5 Afrique, France 3 Corse, Rai 1

This series aims at exploring different cultures through a characteristic feature of folk art: puppets. Travel all over the world to meet those who bring these puppets to life and who strive to uphold this unique tradition in the modern age.



### **Episode 1: Taiwan's marionettes**

This film takes you into the world of Taiwanese marionettes. Over 150 years old and still going strong, these puppets have undergone several transformations and now form a kaleidoscope of various local styles. On the island, traditional glove marionettes rub shoulders with new forms such as 'golden light' puppets.

String puppets, used in Taoist rituals, can also be found here, as puppet companies attempt to bring ancient marionette theatre to life in today's world.



### **Episode 2: The puppet opera of Palermo**

Pupi or rod puppets have been popular in Sicily since the 19th century. These puppet shows are based on medieval troubadour songs; and The Song of Roland in particular. Mimo Cuticchio and his company Figli d'Arte are the last remaining masters of this dying art, which was handed down to them by their parents. Mimo Cuticchio draws from the

ancient culture of Sicilian storytellers, but also reinvents the form. As interpreted by Mimo, this tradition isn't just entertainment for children but true contemporary theatre.



### **Episode 3: Togo: the puppet-master and his children**

In the outlying districts of Lomé, the capital of Togo, Danaye Kanlanfei has created an area for puppets right within his home. Here, puppets he has made over the years share space with the neighbouring children. Danaye, who has been director of the National Puppet Theatre of Togo, spends most of his time in this house.

He continues to create and rehearse plays, make new puppets, exercising a craft that has been his passion since youth. From Lomé to Dapaong (his hometown in the north of Togo), this film takes you through the life, the puppets and the plays of one of the last African puppet masters.



### **Episode 4: Burkina's puppet courtyards**

Puppetry is a fairly recent development in Burkina Faso. A number of young puppeteers have revived this dying traditional art, and today about twenty troops flourish in the country. These small enterprises with limited means usually set up shop in the courtyards of family homes. Here, surrounded by the cacophony of children and animals and the smells of cooking, they craft their puppets and rehearse

their shows in an atmosphere of music, discussions and laughter. This film showcases these artists, and through them presents a view of a country and its culture.



### **Episode 5: A journey through time with Poland's puppet artists**

Puppets have always been a part of Poland's turbulent history. From symbols of the resistance to tools of propaganda, puppets have come a long way here.

Today puppetry has been honed to a fine art by Poland's modern puppet artists.

They take us on a tour of the iconic places that have shaped the history of this art form: The Baj Pomorski theatre near Warsaw, the Bialystock Puppet Theatre, The Pinocchio Puppet and Actor Theatre of Lodz... A journey in time through the magical shows of greats like Bruno Schulz and Ignacy Karpowicz that plunge the viewer into a universe of great poetic virtuosity.



### **Episode 6: Mali, Yaya Coulibaly puppeteer and magician**

Mali is the country where puppetry was born.

Yaya Coulibaly, one of the greatest living puppeteers, is the heir to an ancient tradition. With his troop Sogolon, he is one of the brightest representatives of the African culture and traditions. We discover him in his "house museum" in the middle of thousands of puppets in his daily life and through his magic shows.

## **Serge Lifar: A Revolution in Dance (52') – HD**

French Connection / 2017

Directed by Florent Durth & Ivan Kuzmin

Languages available: French & English

Broadcasters: M-Media



France, renowned for its fondness for the arts, is perhaps best known for its ballet thanks to a certain Russian immigrant by the name of Serge Lifar. Despite his late start as a serious dancer at 16, Lifar found a place in ballet through his perseverance and unassailable stage presence, even working under Sergei Diaghilev, founder of the Ballets Russes. However, Lifar wasn't just limited to being a star onstage. He also rose to become an influential choreographer, a bonafide celebrity and one of the major figures in the renewal of 20th-century French ballet.

The world of dance – both yesterday and today – still remember a personality whose artistic innovations inherently influenced contemporary dance today. With exclusive access to Lifar's personal archives, this intimate account of Lifar's colorful life juxtaposes never-before-seen images alongside interviews with today's dancers and choreographers, who help illustrate who the man behind his artistic fame, the depth of his passion, his friendships and love affairs throughout the years, and the enduring continuity of his groundbreaking work.

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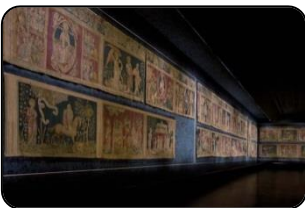
## **Tapestries of the Apocalypse (52') – HD**

Ana Films / Inward Productions / 2011

Directed by Rodolphe Viemont

Languages available: French & English

Broadcasters: KTO, VRT, RTS, History Channel Russia, France 3 Corse, Planete Canada



Comprising 65 scenes over 104 meters, and almost 6 meters high, the Apocalypse Tapestry of Angers has been, since its creation in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, the biggest, most phenomenal and single most important tapestry in the world, stunning onlookers throughout the centuries. It has always been an object of fascination.

It tells « The Apocalypse of John », the final text of the Bible, but also tells a lot about its historical context: the Hundred Years' War, the ambitions and intrigues of Princes of that time... This medieval French heritage is the biggest tapestry in the world, but through centuries, it has almost been lost... How has the Tapestry been re-discovered? What message does it deliver to us? Does the Apocalypse really announce the end of the world?