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Press release
24 January 2020, Nyon

Swiss-Canadian filmmaker Peter Mettler guest of Visions du Réel 2020 Ateliers

Visions du Réel is very pleased to welcome Peter Mettler, the Swiss-Canadian filmmaker within its Ateliers. Renowned filmmaker and director of photography, whose unique approach deeply influenced documentary writing in the 2000s, he will share his universe and his cinematographic practice with the public during a Masterclass. A retrospective will be dedicated to him throughout the festival.

Born in Toronto in 1958 to Swiss parents, Peter Mettler studied film at the Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, and became a figure in the Toronto New Wave in the 1980s, by making a noteworthy first experimental feature, *Scissere* (1982), and as cinematographer for Atom Egoyan, Patricia Rozema and Bruce McDonald, as well as Jennifer Baichwal on *Manufactured Landscapes* (2006). The hybrid work of the filmmaker explores the limits of human perception without predetermined scripts and according to an associative process that wanders the borders of essay, documentary and fiction. His portfolio includes a trilogy of metaphysical documentary travelogues, consisting of *Picture of Light* (1994), *Gambling, Gods and LSD* (2002) and *The End of Time* (2012), and films haunted by the current environmental crisis such as *Petropolis: Aerial Perspectives on the Alberta Tar Sands* (2009) and *Becoming Animal* (2018). A multi-disciplinary creator, Peter Mettler also works as a VJ with artists such as Fred Frith, Biosphere or Jeremy Narby and Franz Treichler. In 2016, he donated his personal archives to the Cinémathèque suisse and to the archives of the Toronto International Film Festival, the largest cinematographical collection in English-speaking Canada.

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LOTERIE ROMANDE

Filmography

Becoming Animal, 2018

Traces du Futur, 2014

The End of Time, 2012

Petropolis: Aerial Perspectives on the Alberta Tar Sands, 2009

Away, 2007

Gambling, Gods and LSD, 2002

Balifilm, 1997

Picture of Light, 1994

Tectonic Plates, 1992

The Top of His Head, 1989

Eastern Avenue, 1985

Scissere, 1982

Gregory, 1981

Lancalot Freely, 1980

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Further information www.visionsdureel.ch/festival/ateliers-2020

51st edition of Visions du Réel: 24 April – 2 May 2020