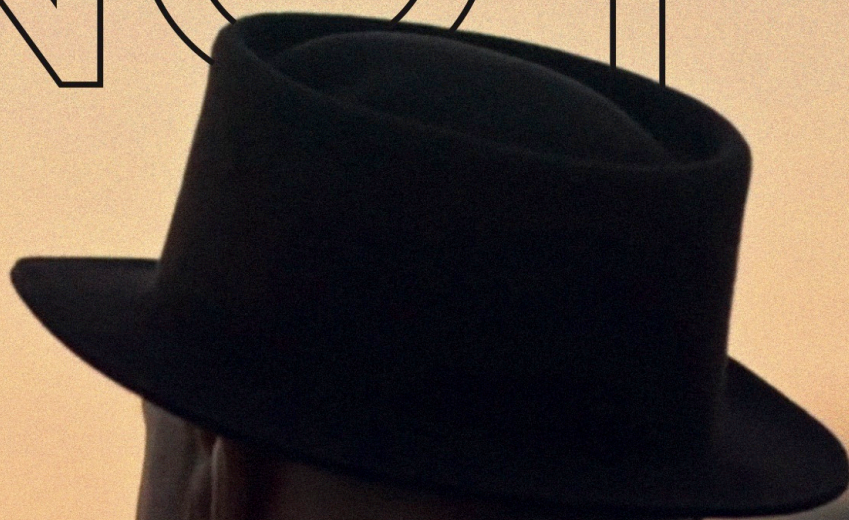


NOT



Presskit English

ME



A Journey with Not Vital

RECK Film present a film by PASCAL HOFMANN

Director of Photography BENNY JABERG – Recording & Sound Design CHRISTOPH BRÜNGGEL – Editing PASCAL HOFMANN & BERNHARD LEHNER
Picture Design UELI NÜESCH – Music MARCEL VAID – Sound Mix MAURIZIUS STAERKLE DRUX – Producer FRANZISKA RECK – Written and directed by PASCAL HOFMANN
A RECK FILMPRODUCTION ZÜRICH in co-production with SRF, RSI and RTS – With the support of BUNDESAMT für KULTUR (EDI) – ZÜRCHER FILMSTIFTUNG
AARGAUER KURATORIUM – TELEPRODUKTIONS-FONDS GMBH – SUCCÈS PASSAGE ANTENNE SRG SSR – SWISSLOS & KULTURFÖRDERUNG KANTON GRAUBÜNDEN
MIGROS KULTURPROZENT – BATA SCHUHSTIFTUNG – CORPORAZIUN ENERGIA ENGIADINA – STIFTUNG DR. VALENTIN MALAMOUD
STIFTUNG STAVROS S. NIARCHOS CHUR – FONDATION SUISA – ERNST GÖHNER STIFTUNG

+ Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra
Ufficio Federal de cultura UFC

ZÜRCHER
FILMSTIFTUNG

AARGAUER
KURATORIUM

RTR
Fernsehrat
Deutschland

SRF
Schweizerische
Radio- und
Fernsehkorporation

RSI
Radiotelevisione
Italiana

SRG SSR
Société suisse
de radiodiffusion

RSR
Radio
Slovenija

Produktionsförderung Österreich
Produktion der ARD
Produktion der ZDF
Produktion der ORF
Produktion der SRG
Produktion der RSI
Produktion der RTR

MIGROS
Kulturprozent

ERNST GÖHNER STIFTUNG

RECK



NOT ME – A Journey with Not Vital

Documentary Essay for Festival and Cinema

With	Not Vital
and	Fadri Mittner, Annatina Miescher, Akhmed Haidara, Christoph Brünggel
Author, Director	Pascal Hofmann
Director of Photography, Script Collaboration	Benny Jaberg
Recording, Sound Design	Christoph Brünggel
Editing	Bernhard Lehner, Pascal Hofmann
Color Grading, Picture Design	Ueli Nüesch, Lab 54a GmbH
Music	Marcel Vaid
Sound Mix	Maurizius Staerkle Drux, MAXDRUX GmbH
Producer	Franziska Reck
Production Managers	Fabiana Schuppli, Ahmed Abdel Mohsen, Jianwei Han, Karin Lenherr
Chief Lighting	André Pinkus, FTK-Filmtechnikerkollektiv
Casting	Susan Müller Casting
Costume Design	Regula Marthaler
Set Construction	Mario Riatsch
Lighting and Camera Assistants	André Bricker, Jakob Mögel
Editing Assistant	Titus Bütler
Title Design and Visual Effects	Brigae Haelg
Archival Research	Kim Odermatt, Christine Albrecht
Production Accountant	Küde Meier
Not Vital Studio	Giorgia von Albertini
Narrator German	Kenneth Huber
Narrator English	Phil Hayes
Photo Archive Not Vital	Giorgia von Albertini
Translation Romansh	Ursina Giger, Esther Krättli, Men Duri Dolf
Translation and Subtitles	Mediamixtre, Karin Leoni
Redaktion SRF	Sandra Roth, Sternstunde Kunst; Urs Augstburger, Pacte
Redaktion RSI	Silvana Bezzola Rigolini
Redaktion RTR	Bertilla Giossi
Music Production	Original music composed and produced by Marcel Vaid Conductor André Bellmont Interpreted by the 'Budapest Art Orchestra'



NOT ME – A Journey with Not Vital

Documentary Essay for Festival and Cinema
Pascal Hofmann, Switzerland 2020

Length 78 Minutes (52 Minutes)

Locations Beijing, Patagonia, New York, Sent Canton of Grisons

Original version Romansh, German, Tamasheq
English / German subtitles

World Premiere ZURICH FILM FESTIVAL 24 Sept – 4 Oct 2020, Focus Competition

Solothurner Filmtage 20 – 27 January 2021

Swiss Cinema Release 21 January 2021

Film website www.reckfilm.ch/en/movies/released/not-me/

Presskit, stills etc. to download www.reckfilm.ch/en/movies/released/not-me/media/

Facebook www.facebook.com/NOTMEfilm/

Instagram www.instagram.com/notmefilm/

Trailer

With English subtitles <https://vimeo.com/420587338>

With German subtitles <https://vimeo.com/418370578>

Screener

Private screener on request at info@reckfilm.ch

Awards German Camera Award 2020 „NOT ME – A Journey with Not Vital“ for DOP Benny Jaberg

A RECK Film Production in coproduction with SRF Swiss Radio and Television, RSI, RTR, SRG, supported by Bundesamt für Kultur (EDI) Schweiz, Zürcher Filmstiftung, Aargauer Kuratorium, Swisslos & Kulturförderung Kanton Graubünden, TPF, Fondation SUISA, Migros Kulturprozent, Ernst Göhner Foundation, Corporaziun Energia Engiadina, Malamoud Foundation, Foundation Stavros S. Niarchos

ISAN 0000-0004-7269-0000-Y-0000-0000-9

SUISA 1014.369



Logline

An intriguing foray into the eventful life and creative artistic expressions of contemporary Swiss artist Not Vital.

Synopsis short

The film takes us on a journey through the eventful life of the contemporary Swiss artist Not Vital.

Director Pascal Hofmann traces the driving force behind the restless cosmopolitan and establishes a dialogue between the motifs in Vital's work, his childhood dreams and the influences of his most important stations such as Beijing, Patagonia, Niger, Sent in Grisons or New York.

Synopsis long

"NOT ME - A Journey with Not Vital" takes us on an intriguing foray into the eventful life and creative artistic expressions of contemporary Swiss artist Not Vital. This film essay sheds light on the work of the internationally renowned Grisons artist who for a long time remained the "well-known unknown" inside his home country.

Director Pascal Hofmann traces the driving force of this restless cosmopolitan, and establishes a dialogue between the motifs in Vital's work, his childhood dreams, and the influences of his most important places of stay such as Beijing, Patagonia, Niger, "his" village of Sent in the Grisons, and New York.

"NOT ME - A Journey with Not Vital" opens up idiosyncratic insights into Vital's perception of reality and its artistic transformation. From beginning to end, this film tells the author's enraptured exploration of the longings of an artist who came from the mountains.



Not Vital

The Swiss artist Not Vital, born 1948 in Sent, lives and works in Beijing (China), Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), and Sent (Grisons, Switzerland). His work – spanning sculpture, painting, drawing, and architecture – reflects Vital's quasi-nomadic way of life. Vital's art is shown in major museums and galleries as well as in public spaces worldwide.

Vital has a foundation in the Grisons with three locations: the Tarasp Castle, the Planta House in Ardez, and a sculpture park in the village of Sent. The mandate of Vital's foundation is to promote local and international artists as well as the Romansh language. While the Planta House in Ardez and the Tarasp Castle hold Vital's art collection and regular exhibitions, Vital's monumental sculptures and architectural interventions can be seen in the sculpture park in Sent.

Links

Website <https://notvital.com/>

Park <https://notvital.com/en/fundaziun/parkin-sent#>

Foundation <https://notvital.com/en/fundaziun>



Director's statement: Pascal Hofmann

Both a cosmopolitan and a loner, a man of the world and a Grisons bedrock, Not Vital reconciles contradictions, but will not easily adapt. To participate in my portrayal of him was only interesting for Not Vital if something "new" and "independent" would emerge. Storytelling, exaggeration and condensation - all stylistic devices in Vital's own artistic repertoire - thus became my guide.

NOT ME is my third artist portrayal film. The first two - about a musician and about a film director - I realised in co-direction with the Zurich filmmaker Benny Jaberg. For the current project I also worked with Benny, who is responsible for the wonderful cinematography already awarded the "Deutscher Kamerapreis 2020". NOT ME is my first film about a visual artist. While I enter new territory with every project, with this particular one I was able to draw on my own experiences as connecting points.

"When you describe someone, you are actually describing yourself", said Daniel Schmid in our artist portrait "Le chat qui pense". This statement reveals important aspects of my work. As a film author, I also explore how the art of my counterpart resonates with my inner self, searching for the intersections. Having grown up in the Grisons mountains myself, I am interested in the artistic exploration of my alpine homeland.

Childhood dreams and longings often remain lifelong driving forces within us. NOT ME explores what role they play in Vital's work. He himself says: "Perhaps a free man is simply one who can realize his dreams. When I think of my childhood dreams, the more of them I could realize, the freer I felt. Ever since I was seven I wanted to go away or become a sculptor. But absolute freedom doesn't exist". The film thus tells a universal story - beyond the individual and specific. After studying oeuvre and vita, I was convinced: Not Vital has to be approached with an open mind and intuition. The keys to Vital's work are imagination, suggestion and dreams, so that fiction plays into reality again and again. While reluctant to explain everything, I did not want to lose myself in transfiguration.

To portray Not Vital's alter ego in the form of a little boy was initially a simple idea. In the course of the work on NOT ME, however, this little boy was discussed critically again and again. What does he really stand for? Is he a metaphor for the innocent gaze of a boy at our planet? Am I that boy too? "There's a lot of you in there too", Not told me when I first showed him the rough cut. This project came into my life at a time when my father was seriously ill. The confrontation with my dying father, my own life, my own childhood, inevitably crept into my work on NOT ME. And my questions to Not were mostly also questions to myself. For a long time I struggled with the knowledge that the farewell to my father, and with it my own history became tangible in the film. Intuitively, however, I also knew that there must be room for this sincerity toward my protagonist.

Pascal Hofmann, July 2020



Bio- and filmography Pascal Hofmann (Author, Director, co-Editor)

Born 1977 in Flims Grisons, Switzerland
Childhood in Flims

1997 Diploma as a draughtsman in structural engineering
2002 Diploma Gestalterische Berufsmaturitätsschule Zürich
2003-2009 Film direction studies at Zurich University of Arts (ZHdK), Diploma «Master of Arts in Film»
2010 Premiere of «Daniel Schmid – Le chat qui pense» at Berlinale (Master diploma film)
2011 Winner promotional art award of Kanton Grisons
2011 Portrait as a filmmaker from Grisons in the book «Bündner Kulturschaffende» by Höneisen/Brunner/Andrea
2009-2016 Manager of Hotel Arena AG in Flims, Director of Hotel Arena Flims
Since 2016 self-employed filmmaker

Father of Selma 9 years, and Emil 5 years. Pascal Hofmann lives and works in Zürich.

Filmography:

2020 **NOT ME – A Journey with Not Vital** (Author, Director, co-Editor)

2018 **Jau ta dun la glina – Not Vital** (Director) Documentary for TV, 25 Min

2010 **Daniel Schmid – Le chat qui pense**

Co-director Benny Jaberg, Documentary film for cinema, HDCAM/Super16, 83 Min

Function: Author, director, DOP, editing

Premiere: Berlinale, Panorama, 2010

Festivals: Chicago International Film Festival, Pusan International Film Festival PIFF, 38th Telluride Film Festival, Vancouver International Film Festival; VIFF, Montréal Festival du Nouveau Cinéma, Dok.Fest Munich

Award: Babelsberger Media Prize 2010

2006 **Steinschlaf**

Essay film, HDV, 4 Min

Function: Author, director, DOP, editing, music

2006 **Wintersong – a film on Dakota Suite**

Co-director Benny Jaberg, Music documentary film, DV/16mm/Super8, 51 Min

Function: Author, director, DOP, editing

Premiere: Visions du Réel 2006, Nyon, Switzerland

Festivals: idfa International documentary film festival, Amsterdam; North by Northeast Music and Film Festival, Toronto; EuroDok, European Documentary Film Festival, Oslo

Award: Honorary mention, Visions du Réel



Bio- and filmography Benny Jaberg (Director of Photography, Script collaboration)

Born 1981 in Baden Argovia, Switzerland. Swiss and German citizenship.
2003-09 Film direction studies at Zurich University of Arts (ZHdK), Diploma «Master of Arts in Film»
2020 German Camera Award in Category Documentary for NOT ME

With "Aheym" Jaberg is currently developing his first full-length feature film as a screenwriter and director. In addition, he is working with his co-author and director Maurizius Staerke-Drux on the essayistic documentary film "Brave New Switzerland" (AT) on the pioneering CRISPr gene scissors technology. In addition to his work as an auteur filmmaker and DOP, Jaberg also realizes projects at the interface with the visual arts, for example as part of the collaborative long-term archive art project "still und dunkel", which he regularly performs as part of an audiovisual performance.

Filmography

2020 **NOT ME – A Journey with Not Vital**, Pascal Hofmann (Director of Photography, Script collaboration)

2018 **Jau ta dun la glina – Not Vital**, Pascal Hofmann (Director of Photography)

2015 **Heimatland**, Michael Krummenacher, Jan Gassmann, Lisa Blatter, Gregor Frei, Benny Jaberg, Carmen Jaquier, Jonas Meier, Tobias Nölle, Lionel Rupp, Mike Scheiwiller (Co-director & -author), 2016 Award Max Ophüls

2015 **Undine Gruenter - Le projet d'aimer**, Anita Hugli (Director of Photography)

2013 **The Green Serpent**, Benny Jaberg (Director, DOP, Editing, Production), 2014 Swiss Film Prize for Best Short Film

2010 **Daniel Schmid – Le chat qui pense**, Benny Jaberg, Pascal Hofmann (Co-director & -author), Babelsberger Media Prize

2008 **Unfall** (Director, Author)

2006 **Wintersong**, Pascal Hofmann, Benny Jaberg (Co-director & -author, DOP, Editing, Location Sound Mix)

www.bennyjaberg.com



RECK Filmproduktion

RECK Film Productions was founded in 2000 by Franziska Reck. The production company focuses on the development and production of documentary films and film essays, for cinema and television.

Franziska Reck has produced more than 30 films. Her focus lies on the distribution of her projects; in addition to the launch in cinemas, in special programmes, on festivals and on television, all films are released on DVD or via VoD platforms.

For 30 years Franziska Reck has been actively involved in the world of film, promoting independent filmmaking in Switzerland. In the beginning as a film distributor at Filmcoopi Zurich (1983–1990), she continued building up the distribution and promotion of Swiss films as director of the IGV/CID (1990-2000) and since 2000 as freelance film producer and CEO of RECK Filmproduktion.

Her films are shown at notable international film festivals: a.o. DOK Leipzig and CPH:DOX (Hairy/Haarig), Int. Short Film Festival Clermont-Ferrand (Subotika), Vision du Réel 2015 and Locarno Film Festival 2015 (Wild Women – Gentle Beasts), Locarno Film Festival 2014 at the Semaine de la Critique and Singapore IFF 2014 (Mulhpar), Festival Visions du réel in the international competition 2013 (Cesars Grill), Internationale Filmfestspiele Berlin 2011 (Against all Odds / Mit dem Bauch durch die Wand), Hot Docs Toronto 2011, Dok Leipzig, CPH:DOX, Jihlava International Film Festival (Sira – When The Half Moon Speaks), 38th International Film Festival Rotterdam (Monsieur Séavy – The way it is). Terra incognita by Peter Volkart won the Swiss Film Prize for best short. Namibia Crossing by Peter Liechti was nominated for the Swiss Film Prize for best documentary in 2005.

In 2017 the International Filmfestival Innsbruck IFFI honoured Franziska Reck with a special award for her work as a producer.

Franziska Reck has been a member of various juries and film commissions. She is a member of the Swiss Film Academy, the Aargauer Kulturkommission, EDN (European Documentary Network); of the board of the producers association GARP, as well as on the board of CinéSuisse.

www.RECKfilm.ch/en





RECK Filmproduktion Filmography

IN DEVELOPMENT

THE 8 MILLIMETER UNIVERSE by Peter Volkart. An essay about the world of narrow film.

IN PRODUCTION

HOW THE ART CAME TO THE DOGS, TV documentary, 50 Min. by Anka Schmid. A foray to dogs and cats in the museum.

LAS TORERAS by Jackie Brutsche, Documentary, coproduction with Recycled Tv, Bern; 90 Min. A research about a family secret.

MAHATAH by Sandra Gysi, Documentary, 80 Min. A day at the central train stations of Zürich and Cairo. An essay about time.

COMPLETED

2020 NOT ME – A JOURNEY WITH NOT VITAL by Pascal Hofmann, 78 Min. (52 Min.)

2018 FAIR TRADERS – True Stories of Ethical Business by Nino Jacusso. Documentary for cinema, 89 Min.

2018 SUBITO – Instant photography by Peter Volkart. Film essay for cinema and TV, 77 Min.

2018 JAU TA DUN LA GLINA – NOT VITAL by Pascal Hofmann. TV Documentary for RTR, 26 Min.

2018 LAND OF MY CHILDREN by Dario Aguirre. Documentary for cinema, 88 Min.

2017 HAIRY by Anka Schmid. Documentary for TV and cinema, 52 Min.

2015 SUBOTIKA by Peter Volkart. Fictional short film for festival, cinema and TV, 13 Min.

2015 WILD WOMEN – GENTLE BEASTS by Anka Schmid. Documentary for cinema, 96 Min.

2014 MULHAPAR by Paolo Poloni. Documentary for festival and cinema, 93 Min.

2014 SHANA – The Wolf's Music by Nino Jacusso. Fiction film for cinema, 95 Min. in coprod. with RED CEDAR Films, Vancouver

2013 MILLIONS CAN WALK by Christoph Schaub and Kamal Musale. Documentary for cinema, 95 Min.

2013 CESARS GRILL by Dario Aguirre. Documentary for cinema, 88 Min., in coprod. with Filmtank Hamburg.

2012 AHIMSA – The Strength of Non-Violence by Karl Saurer. Documentary, 65 Min.

2012 MULHAPAR by Paolo Poloni. TV Documentary, 56 Min.

2012 ACTUALLY, WE WERE PLANNING TO GO BACK HOME by Yusuf Yeşilöz. TV Documentary, 52 Min.

2012 ROOM 606 by Peter Volkart. Short film, 35mm, 15 Min.

2011 AGAINST ALL ODDS by Anka Schmid. Documentary for cinema, 93 Min.

2011 SIRA – SONGS OF THE CRESCENT MOON by Sandra Gysi and Ahmed Abdel Mohsen. Documentary for cinema, 77 Min.

2010 BÖDÄLÄ – DANCE THE RHYTHM by Gitta Gsell. Documentary dance film for cinema, 78 Min.

2009 ISA HESSE-RABINOVITCH – THE MOVIE GAME by Anka Schmid. TV documentary (SRG/3sat), 52 Min.

2008 FEDERICA DE CESCO by Nino Jacusso. Documentary film, 35mm, 95 Min.

2008 MONSIEUR SELAVY by Peter Volkart, Short film, 35mm, 10 Min.

2008 THE LOVE OF MUSIC by Yusuf Yeşilöz, TV Documentary, 54 Min.

2007 RAJA'S JOURNEY by Karl Saurer, Documentary essay for cinema, 78 Min.

2006 SWEEPING ADDIS by Corinne Kuenzli, TV Documentary (SRG/3sat), 50 Min.

2006 BETWEEN THE WORLDS by Yusuf Yeşilöz, TV Documentary (SRG/3sat), 54 Min.

2005 IRENE SCHWEIZER by Gitta Gsell, Portrait für Kino, 75 Min.

2005 TERRA INCOGNITA by Peter Volkart, Short film, 35mm, 18 Min.

2004 NAMIBIA CROSSINGS by Peter Liechti, Essay for cinema, 35mm, 90 Min.

2003 DIETER ROTH by Edith Jud, Documentary for cinema, 35mm, 118 Min.

2000 TRANSITO by Nino Jacusso, TV Documentary, 47 Min.





Contacts

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Presskit, film stills, etc to download

www.reckfilm.ch/en/movies/released/not-me/media/