



CATALOGUE  
With festival awards

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# HD

LIFE ON FIRE (6*1h) .....	p.3
BUILDING GREEN (4*1h) .....	p.5

## SERIES

ANIMALS LIKE US (12*52') .....	p.6
BE A PREDATOR (2*52') .....	p.13
CONFLICTS OF NATURE (4*52') .....	p.15
MARINE MAMMALS (10*26') .....	p.17

## FILLERS

FUNNY ANIMALS (13*4') .....	p.24
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# 52'

A MAN AMONG ORCAS (HD).....	p.25
FACE TO FACE WITH THE POLAR BEAR (HD).....	p.26
SPERM WHALES, DEALING WITH THE UNEXPECTED.....	p.27
FUR SEALS, THE DARK SIDE .....	p.28
KILLER WHALES, UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL .....	p.29
LEOPARD SEALS, LORDS OF THE ICE .....	p.30
PENGUIN BAYWATCH, ANTARCTICA .....	p.31
PENGUIN BAYWATCH, SUB-ANTARCTIC ISLANDS.....	p.32
THE ADOPTED DOLPHIN .....	p.33
WILDLIFE FILMMAKERS: MISHAPS & DANGERS .....	p.34
SHARKS, SCAVENGERS OF THE SEAS .....	p.35
SCAVENGERS OF SAVANNAH .....	p.36
THE TICK AND THE BIRD .....	p.37
THE DIVA MUMMY .....	p.38

# LIFE ON FIRE

(HDTV Series 4x1h Natural History + 2x1h Science)  
2009 - 2010 - 2011

A SAINT THOMAS PRODUCTIONS production for ARTE

Volcanoes are one of the most spectacular and powerful forces on our planet. They create new land, change landscapes and destroy civilisations, but more than two billion years ago they also breathed life into our world.

From the ocean abyss to snow-covered summits, this ambitious series paints a detailed picture of the struggles and amazing intimacy required to survive around volcanoes.

Spectacular scenery provides the backdrop for the extraordinary animals and plants that have learned to juggle with fire. Fragile and engaging, these creatures teach us lessons in survival in a world as fascinating as it is dangerous.

Wildscreen Film Festival, Bristol (Ash Runners)  
*Panda Award for the Best Sound*

International Underwater Film Festival, Marseilles (Pioneers of the Deep)  
*Silver Palm*

33rd International Wildlife Film Festival, Missoula, Montana USA (Ash Runners)  
*Merit Award for Cinematography*

Albert's International Wildlife Film Festival, Albert (Pioneers of the Deep)  
*Special Jury Award*  
*Award for Best Scenario*

Wild Talk Africa Film Festival, Cape Town (Ash Runners)  
*Award for the Best Sound in a Natural History film*

## EPISODES

### *Natural History*

1/ **Ash Runners** - On the volcanic island of New Britain, a handful of animals have learned to live with the sporadic anger of the Earth. When ash from an eruption invades their habitat, the choice seems simple: stay and adapt, or leave.

2/ **Pioneers of the Deep** - In the vast emptiness of the Pacific Ocean, tectonic movements construct or destroy islands. In the Tongan archipelago, two little-known animals have learnt to cope with these ephemeral lands: the sooty tern, a seabird that never dares wet its wings for fear of drowning and the Alvin shrimp, a blind crustacean that nonetheless manages to find its way around the abyss. When an underwater volcano becomes an island, the fates of these two living paradoxes are linked.

3/ **Ice Jumpers** - In Kamchatka and Alaska, many animals share the same volcanic environment. Adapted to survive the merciless winters, these creatures now have to cope with the extreme heat of volcanic explosions. How do they do this? Not constrained by international borders, many jump from one side of the Pacific Ocean to the other.

4/ **Phoenix Temples** - Central American volcanoes have created a number of rich and varied ecosystems, from the depths of the jungle to the prairies. But when a volcano awakens, the animals and plants are faced with a situation that they have never confronted before. In a torrent of ash and fire, the animals either die or move to a less volatile volcano to give birth to the next generation.

### *Science*

5/ **Volcano Doctors** - Whether the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Colombia, Chile, Italy or Iceland, each of these countries is home to active volcanoes that are a threat to the populations settled at their feet. To avoid disasters, volcanologists are asked to anticipate and warn, they are asked to be prophets and to know how to analyze the volcanoes' slightest tremors. Around the world, these volcano doctors use their tools and knowledge to try and protect those who live in the path of the Earth's fire.

6/ **Icelandic Volcanoes, who is next?** - A year ago, the eruption of the Eyjafjallajökull volcano in Iceland provoked a vast economic chaos by paralysing one of the world's major air traffic networks for several days. Through spectacular aerial footage, the film tries to understand which volcano could wake up next and what the consequences of a major eruption are likely to be. The world has come to realize that a colossal power sleeps beneath Iceland but Icelanders have learned to live amongst their volcanoes for centuries.

Natural History/Science – 6\*52' HD

# BUILDING GREEN

(HDTV Series 4x1h)  
2009

A SAINT THOMAS PRODUCTIONS production for ARTE, DISCOVERY PLANET GREEN

## Fire, water, air and earth.

Mankind is currently defying all 4 basic elements to engineer big, useful, ambitious and environmentally friendly projects that will shape our future on Planet Earth and even plant the seeds for the colonization of other planets. Indeed, this series defies imagination with visually explicit footage and revolutionary filming techniques. After identifying humanity's current needs, all the expensive projects it portrays are the result of years of research and development and are currently in construction for at least several extra years. Thanks to CGI and stunning cinematography, dramatic but humoristic storytelling, each episode turns hardscience into engaging and easily understandable TV programming.

1/ **Masdar City** - Enter Masdar, which will be the world's first "carbon-neutral" city - a self-sustaining, energy-independent metropolis built in the oil-rich emirate of Abu Dhabi. Can the vision of a zero-waste, zero carbon-village change the way the rest of the world's cities are built? An international team of engineers will try to find out... but they are facing a deadline that needs to see the entire city finished... in two years!

2/ **Earth Power** - The earth's core is boiling with energy. Big and clean: one of the most promising alternative energy for the future is geothermal energy. Engineering teams are developing the technological know-how to sink wells 16 000 feet into dangerously high temperatures and pressures. We follow their bold expeditions deep into the earth's heart and their quest for clean energy. Anytime, anywhere.

3/ **Power Tower** - In downtown Guangzhou China, one of the "greenest" structures on earth is rising - a nearly 1,000 foot tall skyscraper with built-in wind-turbines, aerodynamic structure and a photo-voltaic façade... the first building that will actually generate more power than it uses!

4/ **Sun on Earth** - Nuclear fusion a clean, safe and unlimited source of energy. But unfortunately, it is incredibly difficult to master. And there's more than one way of going about it. While the construction of ITER, the international super Tokamak, is about to start in Southern France, international teams of scientists around the world are working flat out to solve physics and engineering problems. Putting their rivalries aside, all these scientists share their knowledge of plasma, the fourth state of matter after its gaseous phase. Only when the secrets of plasma are mastered will the gates to fusion open.

Architecture/Environment/Science - 4\*52' HD

# ANIMALS LIKE US

(12x52')

A SAINT THOMAS PRODUCTIONS production for CANAL+ , FRANCE TELEVISION,  
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNELS INTERNATIONAL

How similar are animals to humans? At first glance, we don't have much in common with reptiles, birds or even mammals. Religion, culture and society have always forced us to view ourselves as completely separate from the animal kingdom. But in fact, recent research has shown us that we share a good deal of the same behaviour. It turns out animals sometimes get high, they fight wars, they learn about adult life through playing games, they develop cultural practices which are transmitted from one generation to the next. We are still unable to truly understand the minds of animals but every day we learn more about their emotions and desires.

International Wildlife Film Festival - Missoula, Montana, USA

*Finalist*

*Merit award for presentation of a controversial issue*

Wildscreen- Bristol, UK

*Finalist*

Vendee Nature Film Festival - La Rochelle, France

*Silver Award*

Menigoute Wildlife Film Festival - Menigoute, France

*Education Award*

International Festival of Insect Films - Narbonne, France

*Special Award*

European Film Festival, Valvert - Belgium

*Best Commentary Cristal Eagle Award*

Bird and Wildlife Film Festival - Abbeville, France

*Best Scenario and Best Special Effects Award*

5th Fifale Festival - Rabat, Morocco

*Bronze Crane Award*

Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival, USA

*Finalist*

Natural history/Science - 12x52'

# SEASON 1

## ANIMAL ADOPTION

*Directed by: Jacqueline FARMER*

Altruism, an act that bestows a benefit on the recipient while conferring a cost to the actor is one of the central paradoxes of evolution. And yet, amongst lions, rats, termites, ants, dolphins, and several primate species, altruism may go as far as adoption. Knowing that, how could natural selection have eliminated altruism? In the case of social insects, parent substitution was a flaw in Darwin's theory of evolution by natural selection: the biologist noticed that non-reproductive insects who adopted and helped young ones, brought a large portion of genetic baggage from their parents. Darwin had to broaden his theory to the family group. For mammals, including men, what advantage is there in the act of adoption? Why a lioness would adopt an antelope? The controversy at the heart of this documentary continues to be debated in today's scientific world; in the years following the adoption, does the adopted individual contribute to the foster parents' survival and vice versa? At the far end of the scale, should adoption be encouraged for a species' survival, for example among humans, mole rat societies and Polist wasps where certain reproductive individuals sacrifice their fertility? While raising these different questions with revelatory wildlife sequences, this documentary will study each case separately because each adoption behavior has evolved independently forming its own pattern, its own benefit and even... its own disadvantages.

Natural history/Science - 12x52'

## ANIMAL LANGUAGE

*Directed by: Keebe KENNEDY*

An Indonesian legend claims that monkeys can speak but they prefer to stay quiet. Do animals have languages that we don't understand? Is it just a question of getting the right dictionary or is language the one thing that separates humans from the rest of the animal kingdom? Birds sing, lions roar and chimpanzees chatter but do these noises mean anything? This one-hour documentary takes viewers into the wild to listen to nature's noisemakers and meet some of the scientists who spend their days trying to have conversations with animals. From parrots to killer whales we find out who is saying what to whom and explore whether there is such a thing as animal language. This documentary closes the series by challenging the last bastion of our "humanity". The barriers are collapsing. Language is not Man's domain alone.

Natural history/Science - 12x52'

## ANIMAL MEDICINE

Directed by: Jacqueline FARMER

Recent research and field observation have shown that some animals may feed on prey or plants which are not part of their regular diet or which bring about unusual reactions: polar bears consume kelp, elephants lick salt, caterpillars feed on poisonous plants, and some chimpanzees eat abrasive leaves to cure worms and diarrhea. Social animals such as Red Capucin monkeys have even learned, through imitation or through contact with humans, to add charcoal to their diet in order to neutralize the poison contained in the fruit they relish eating. Through comprehensive examples, this film questions pre-conceived ideas relating to animal consciousness, notions of health and assistance, as well as the transmission of medical knowledge from one generation to the next.

Natural history/Science – 12x52'

## ANIMAL POLITICS

Directed by: Guillaume POYET

At the beginning of 2001 the primatologist Franz de Waal published his work on a group of chimpanzees at Arnhem Zoo in Holland. He has brought to light the presence of rites that are so subtle and so elaborate that they show a real "political" organisation thus starting a debate which has stirred up the scientific world. With the battle for dominance among rats and oryxes, the communist societies of ants, the coalitions between baboons, the abduction of offspring among rhesus monkeys and the adoptions, rivalries and manipulations among chimpanzees, we realise that the more sociable and psychophysiologicaly evolved a species is, the more their network of influence approaches that of humans and includes a symbolic dimension necessitated by social relations.

Natural history/Science - 12x52'

## ANIMAL BUSINESS

*Directed by: Nicolas GABRIEL*

"Give me this, I will give you that". This universal definition of trade finds an equivalent in nature in a phenomenon call "mutualism". Shaped by evolution, it describes all long or short term exchanges and cooperation between animals in order to survive. It turns the traditional host-parasite relationship in a beneficial alliance for both partners. To describe mutualism, this fascinating and well-documented episode travels from the cold ocean depths to the heat of summer corn fields where unexpected couples have formed: manta rays and remoras, sea cucumbers and shrimps or else butterflies and ants got married for better or for worst.

Natural history/Science - 12x52'

## ANIMAL TOOL USE

*Directed by: Guillaume POYET*

Recent discoveries have shown that hundreds of animal species use tools. Herons in the West Indies, for instance, throw seeds at the surface of a pond to attract its preys; sea otters use flat stones to break open urchin shells or earshells; tailor ants make nests out of leaves, which are woven together by threads secreted by the species' larvae. Likewise, some crabs use sea anemones to reppel octopuses and chimpanzees throw rocks or branches they have broken to shake fruit off trees. Until recently, it was believed that human tool-use was different from animal tool-use where the tool is neither transmitted nor accumulated. Several long-term studies on animal populations have proven quite the contrary: Japanese macaques have been using, for two generations, the same water puddles to clean up their food. Last but not least, crows in New Caledonia are even able to manufacture hooks out of the leaves a pandanus tree!

Supported by these observations, this comprehensive documentary will be structured around three central questions: how does the tool-using animal transform the world and, by extension, others animals? Ultimately, how does the tool transform the animal's behaviour?

Natural history/Science - 12x52'

## ANIMAL HOMOSEXUALITY

*Directed by: Bertrand LOYER, Jessica MENENDEZ and Stéphane ALEXANDRESCO*

A covert revolution has been taking place in nature, and has gone unnoticed. For a good reason: morality. But strong facts won a battle over reluctant minds: according to recent scientific research, serious publications reveal that more than 450 different kinds of animals engage in homosexual activity. This documentary (which has since become a cult film in the scientific and gay communities) has taken this research, and combined it with never-before-seen film footage, to produce this compelling and groundbreaking documentary. It explores the various ways homosexuality is expressed in the animal kingdom through courtship, affection, sex, pair bonding and parenting. Backed by scientists, shot in countless wild locations from the Californian abyss to the Japanese Alps, it re-examines and revises the fundamental paradigms of nature.

Natural history/Science - 12x52'

## ANIMAL WEB

*Directed by: Nicolas GABRIEL*

Insect societies have always fascinated us by the perfection of their organisation. But without their ability to secrete a substance (wax, glue...) insects would never have been induced to become organized. The first groupings were enabled by constructive secretions such as silk, a magical fibre that builds, unites, and speaks. Among all the different animal secretions, silk is a formidable medium of information which encourages social interactions. For some species, this extraordinary substance serves as means of both communication, transportation, as well as protection, nourishment, and reproduction. With silk as the foundation, the social life of insects and spiders is organized around these web-networks. Everywhere in nature, spun threads cross, interweave, and separate, creating many intersections where spinner insects and spiders can meet and feel each other's vibrations. It's the beginning of a form of communication that can be transformed into a confrontation, a sexual encounter, or another form of interaction. The techniques of macro-cinematography, endoscopy, and electronic microscopy brings you into the tiny and intimate universe of social insects and spiders to discover the secrets of the silk spinners.

Natural History/Science - 12x52'

# SEASON 2

## ANIMAL CULTURE

*Directed by: Emma BAUS*

In the 1950s, rhesus macaques from the island of Koshima in Japan started to wash the sweet potatoes researchers gave them to eat. This observation could have remained anecdotal if the Japanese primatologists had not given this innovation the name of: "pre-culture". Culture, always considered as a distinctive feature of the human race was being put into question. The study of the most evolved primates, our cousins the chimpanzees and bonobos, has since then enabled us to give a more precise definition of animal culture: habits acquired through a learning process leading to distinct traditions in different animal communities. Progressively other species have joined the "culture club": elephants, dolphins, killer whales and even ravens... Through precise examples and never before seen footage, this documentary fuels the old debate of "nature versus culture" and sheds new light on the paradoxical question: "Is culture natural?".

Natural history/Science - 12x52'

## ANIMAL EMOTIONS

*Directed by: Keebe KENNEDY*

For many years, scientists thought that animals were incapable of having emotions; they were merely living robots - biological machines ruled simply by urges, instincts and hormones. Since then, the attitude towards animals has changed but feelings and emotions have always been so difficult to study that for many years scientists didn't even try to decipher them. But now, thanks to recent advances in neuroscience, we have the means to understand what is happening inside animal brains. We have discovered that, like us, they feel emotions such as fear, anger, sadness and love. And they need these emotions in order to survive. From primary to more complex emotions, this documentary explores the internal lives of a whole range of species in the animal kingdom.

Natural history/Science - 12x52'

## ANIMAL PLAY

*Directed by: Keebe KENNEDY*

As children we learn more about life through playing games than we do in any other way. It is the ability to play that enables us to develop into well co-ordinated, adaptable, highly social individuals. But we are not alone, animals play also. For many years this animal play was thought to be somehow "different" to human play, but this is proving not to be the case. Why do animals indulge in play, what are the functions of these energy draining and often dangerous activities? This interdisciplinary programme will explore the reasons that play is so important to development: by describing social, locomotor and object play behavior in animal as diverse as reptiles, birds and mammals, it will find out the benefits it does provide. Finally it will look at the shocking evidence of what happens to young animals who are prevented from playing. In a startling parallel to humans, animal deprived of play, develop into dysfunctional adults, and even serial killers.

Natural history/Science - 12x52'

## THE BEAST WITHIN US - THE NATURE OF MOTHERS

*Directed by: Emma BAUS and Jacqueline FARMER*

Maternal instinct is a universal phenomenon, responsible in many ways for the incredible success of human beings as a species. But contrary to the myth, maternal love is neither automatic nor guaranteed. Natural selection means many pressures influence a mother's attitude and the choices she makes when confronted with the arrival of a new baby. Today, as in the past, women must make some hard value judgements as they approach motherhood. What will the child "cost" her? What will he bring her? What kind of support can she expect from those around her? In this original and provocative film, primatologist and best selling author Sarah Blaffer Hrdy shares her vision of motherhood and its crucial role in human evolution. Shot on three continents, featuring animal behaviour, a hunter-gatherer people and Sarah's own life experience, the film questions our myths of maternal love.

Natural history/Ethnology/Science - 12x52'

# BE A PREDATOR

(2x52')

*A SAINT THOMAS PRODUCTIONS production for PLANETE*

Imagine you are swimming under Antarctic ice or diving the Marianna abyss.

Imagine you can suddenly see in the depths of the sea, hear ultra-sounds, decode radar waves and detect electric fields.

1,2,3... you are a killer whale or else a dolphin, a bear or a leopard seal!

Using the latest technologies of image treatment and stock footage from Saint Thomas Productions' extensive film library, this wildlife series presents an insider's view of the predators' life and senses. Both spectacular and entertaining, the series gives a modern outlook on nature and its most spectacular ambassadors: predators.

Each episode depicts a predator and its hunting techniques in its natural habitat. Following the principles of a food chain, the programmes jump from one animal to the next, from hunter to prey.

Natural History - 2x52'

## POLES

*Directed by: Julien NAAR and Frédéric BERNADICOU*

Mirages are shaping over the immaculate ice shelf. Close up shot of a bear inhaling the frozen air. From the bear's point of view, we understand that... he is smelling a seal. This odour is that of a young ringed seal hidden under a thin layer of snow. A few steps and paw swipes to clear the animal and uncover a young ringed seal snack. Under the ice shelf, protected from bears by several meters of frozen ice, belugas - the white whales - are hunting halibut. In their tridimensional environment, individuals can communicate the good hunting spots while kilometres apart. The chattering of these ghost hunters is continuous. At the South Pole, leopard seals hunt in silence. But they are nonetheless excellent tacticians. Their hunt is based on their excellent sight, experience and a perfect knowledge of their prey's calendar. When do the parent penguins go off to feed at sea, when do they return, when are the young going to take their first bath and where exactly will they get into the water? The answers to these questions are all part of the leopard seal's hunting culture. We follow his adventures under the surface of ice-covered bays. When his hunting season comes to an end at fall, the Northern spring wakes the polar bear which goes off to hunt. Our year in the lives of Pole predators comes to a close.

Natural History - 2x52'

## OCEANS

*Directed by: Julien NAAR and Frédéric BERNADICOU*

Sharks or Dolphins, two predators, two morphological responses to the same environmental constraints. Which one is the better adapted to survive? An underwater camera passes swiftly over a coralline sandbank then stops on a black and image of a razor fish lurking in wait. Several bottlenose dolphins forage in this location. The mothers use echolocation to spot razor fish and teach their young how to master this sophisticated sense that we don't know. Other bottlenose dolphins have developed yet another spectacular application of this sense: they hunt grey mullets in the muddy mangrove waters and strand them on the banks. Other dolphin species use this natural sonar in different ways: some descend in group in the abyss to locate anchovy shoals. They force them up to a lesser depth where they will get stuck by the natural frontier of the water surface. But how is it possible to hunt in the darkness of the abyss without this super-sense? Seals have found an answer to this question, thanks to their vibrissae. These whiskers can detect the movements of prey in total darkness. But what can really be seen with these whiskers and how do they use them? That is what a young sea lioness in Patagonia and a grey seal in Scotland learn... before they suddenly end up in the jaws of a super-predator, a killer whale. How can they resist? To rule over the oceans, this animal an array of senses, a hunting culture transmitted from one generation to the next and an adaptability to changing environmental conditions.

Natural History - 2x52'

# CONFLICTS OF NATURE

(4x52')

A SAINT THOMAS PRODUCTIONS production for FRANCE 2

International Insect Films Festival - Narbonne, France  
*Best Award*

International Insect Films Festival - Narbonne, France  
*Young Jury Best Award*

European Nature Film Festival Valvert - Brussels, Belgium  
*Best European Film*

Cinema & Nature Encounters Festival - Dompierre, France  
*Special Mention*

International Wildlife Film Festival - Missoula, Montana, USA  
*Merit Award For Macrophotography*

International Nature and Environment Film Festival - Le Mont Dore-Sancy, France  
*Grand Award of the City of Mont Dore for Best Film*

Filmobidos: Medical and Scientific International Film Festival - Obidos, Portugal  
*Golden Serpent: 1st Award in the Scientific Films Category*

International Nature & Environment Film Festival - Le Mont Dore-Sancy, France  
*Grand Award for Best Film*

## CONFLICTS IN A POND

*Directed by : Bertrand LOYER*

This is the unusual story of a little-known insect: the water beetle. Having spent the winter beneath the ice, the water beetle which can walk, swim, and fly, stirs with the first signs of spring. Its habitat: a small pond. Its neighbors: dragonflies, frogs and newts. Its daily life: survival. Between two skirmishes, it gives birth to some twenty larvae of varying kinds... only the most voracious will make it to adulthood before the pond dries out.

Natural History/Science - 4x52'

## CONFLICTS IN A RIVER

*Directed by: Pascal PLISSON*

At the foot of Uganda's roaring Murchison falls live two eternal enemies: the Nile monitor lizard and Nile crocodile. Despite the crocodile's reign of terror within the river, the stealthy lizard is master of the banks where it steals and devours their vulnerable eggs. The first days of the young Nile crocodile are a series of nightmares : if it survives the lizard's attacks, it must avoid the swooping attacks of perch and eagles. Once adult, it becomes the undisputed master of the river and seeks to devour its erstwhile enemies one by one.

Natural History/Science - 4x52'

## CONFLICTS IN THE JUNGLE

*Directed by: Pascal BLEUZEN*

In the Amazon jungle of French Guyana, a young jaguar is preparing to become master of the forest. His reign over the territory, however, is contested by creatures fiercer than he. These six-legged beasts are none other than the fearsome warrior ants. Over several days we will follow the nomadic pursuits of this ant colony who will eventually cross paths with the young jaguar in his life-learning adventures. These ants uproot their home every single day, travelling by night in groups one-million strong. With an instinct for solidarity, they work as a cohesive group. Despite their unity, we will witness the subtle struggle for power between the Queen and a pretender. Little by little, we begin to understand these peculiar ants who, like the jaguar, do not go unnoticed by the other inhabitants of the forest.

Natural History/Science - 4x52'

## CONFLICTS AROUND A TREE

*Directed by: Bertrand LOYER*

The plains of the Masai Mara in Kenya, a dominant male, twenty submissive females, two warring brothers, a tree of forbidden fruit, a snake: this is the olive baboon version of Genesis. Effortlessly combining scientific rigor, objectivity and humor, this documentary spends eight months around a "dormitory-tree" in the intimacy of a troop of baboons caught up in hierarchical conflicts. They have to put up with anything: floods, rivalries, alliances, parasites, and even cheetah attacks. Only a unified troop could possibly overcome these ordeals...

# MARINE MAMMALS

(10\*26')

A SAINT THOMAS PRODUCTIONS production for CANAL+

Whales, seals, porpoises, dugongs, narwhals or dolphins: a large family of warm-blooded cousins called "Marine Mammals" which have conquered the world's oceans. They brave storms, cold waters, isolation, predators... they have evolved from common land-living ancestors and invented sophisticated hunting techniques in order to survive. This family holds several records in the animal world, among which the largest animal on our planet or the deepest diving one.

CONTEXT: The Marine Mammals series has been shot over a period of five years across the seven seas. Not only does it reveal new unsuspected behaviors, but it also tells compelling stories for all family audiences. Using revolutionary filming techniques and dedicated crews, this landmark series presents the biggest wildlife series ever devoted to these charismatic creatures. Each episode immerses the viewer in a hidden universe and delivers intimate portraits of these elusive creatures. The series has been directed by some of the most famous wildlife directors, including Luc JACQUET ("March of the Penguins") and Bertrand LOYER (Founder of Saint Thomas Productions). All together, it has received over 20 awards at international festivals and aired in more than 50 countries.

Natural History - 10\*26'

## SPRINGTIME FOR THE WEDDELL SEALS

*Directed by: Luc JACQUET*

International Marine and Exploration Film Festival - Toulon, France  
*Bronze Anchor*

International Mountain and Adventure Film Festival - Autrans, France  
*Special Award from the Jury*

Weddell seals live year round in Antarctica, where they must adapt to the harsh weather conditions of the coldest continent on earth. Being at ease on the ice banks and in the frozen waters beneath does not come easily, however. These web-footed marine mammals undergo a difficult initiation process. On the surface of the ice and in the underwater labyrinths, the camera follows a young Weddell seal during the first few weeks of its life. Although their environment is quite inhospitable, it is of the most exquisite beauty.

Natural History - 10x26'

## HUNTS OF THE DOLPHIN KING

*Directed by: Bertrand LOYER*

Worldwide Underwater Cinematography Festival - Antibes, France  
*Best of Wildlife Documentary Award*

International Marine and Exploration Film Festival - Toulon, France  
*Special Mention from Jury*

Jules Verne Adventures - Paris, France  
*Special Jury Award*

International Wildlife Film Festival - Missoula Montana  
*Merit award for Outstanding Footage*

International Underwater Festival - Tabarka, Tunisia  
*Award for Technical and Artistic Excellence and for its Message of Tolerance*  
*Award for Cinematography*

Dolphins, and in particular bottlenose dolphins like the one in "Flipper", have always been considered friends to humans. But from a fish's perspective, dolphins are merciless killers. This fascinating documentary shows how dolphins lay down the law in lagoons and mangroves. They detect and unearth razor fish camouflaged in the sand, they knock out and send mullets flying into the air with the swing of a fin, they fight off sea-serpents with ease and can persuade sharks to keep a safe distance from their communities. One of their techniques is to strand fish in shallow water, leaving them to dry out and die on the mudbanks. Their techniques are so efficient that dolphins can afford to spend only 10% of their time hunting for food. The rest of the time is devoted to their favorite passtime: surfing the waves.

Natural History - 10x26'

## NOSE-NO-GOOD THE GREY SEAL

*Directed by: Bertrand LOYER*

International Underwater Film Festival - Tabarka, Tunisia  
*Coralis Award for Best Original Treatment*

Nausica Festival - Boulogne sur Mer, France  
*Young Public's Award*

International Underwater Film Festival - Antibes, France  
*Silver Palm Award*

International Marine and Exploration Film Festival - Toulon, France  
*Honorable Mention*

In the Orkney Islands (which lies far offshore the northern end of Scotland) lives a male seal with a curious scar on his snout. What on earth could have caused it? Alongside the seal for several years, with the help of state-of-the-art technology, we journey into the grey seal's world from birth through to sexual maturity. While infra-red cameras demonstrate how the seal regulates his internal body temperature, underwater cameras take us along his underwater adventures of hunting, singing, and courtship which take place 225 meters below the surface. The mystery behind the scar is solved when the underwater cameraman surprises the seal mating. She was definitely not in the mood...

Natural History - 10x26'

## THE SEA ELEPHANTS BEACH

*Directed by: Thierry THOMAS*

Cinema & Nature Encounters Festival - Dompierre, France  
*Best Wildlife Documentary Award*

International Wildlife Film Festival - Albert, France  
*Grand Award*

International Bird And Wildlife Film Festival - Abbeville, France  
*Nature Award*

International Marine And Exploration Film Festival - Toulon, France  
*Bronze Anchor Award*

In the sub-Antarctic Island of Kerguelen, the end of winter reveals a barren beach abandoned to the penguins. Little by little, the beach begins to fill up with curious invaders and soon will be inhabited by several tens of thousands of sea elephants. The females give birth upon arrival while the males fight over their harems of over 100 females. Though death is never absent from their harsh existence, there is also an abundance of life: the beach is soon filled with thousands of youngsters.

Natural History - 10x26'

## THE FUR SEAL NURSERY

*Directed by: Jean-François BARTHOD*

International Marine and Exploration Film Festival - Toulon, France

*Special Mention from Jury*

Despite their mocking appearance and playful character, fur seals remain prey to a merciless natural selection. Thousands of them migrate every year to Amsterdam Island, lost in the vast Indian Ocean. They come to perpetuate the species in a place where only the fittest will survive. During the Austral spring, male fur seals with imposing manes protect their harems by biting intruders. The result is a blood bath. Under the protection of dominant males, females give birth and nurse their young. In order to produce their rich milk, females return frequently to the sea for nourishment. A nursery of abandoned youngsters anxiously await the return of their mothers. To pass the time, they play games, dream about surfing the breaking waves, and avoid the feared immature males. Young males spend eight years receiving blows from the dominant males. Then, after two years of reproduction, it becomes their turn to deal out the blows. Who's next?

Natural History - 10x26'

## THE DOLPHIN SOCIETY

*Directed by: Bertrand LOYER*

International Underwater Festival - Tabarka, Tunisia

*Best Music Award*

International Marine and Exploration Film Festival - Toulon, France

*Honorable Mention*

Can a dolphin separated from its group survive alone? To find out, there is nothing like a journey through the crystalline waters of the dolphin kingdom. We discover that dolphin society is quite organized and that their lives often depend upon the group. In the Bahamas, spotted dolphins must help one another to locate and surround fish in utter darkness. In the Marquesas Islands, the mysterious melon-headed whales (discovered in 1966!) jointly defend their young against sharks. Off the coast of the Rangiroa atoll, bottle nose dolphins mate and perpetuate the species. Not far from Scotland, a common dolphin gets separated from his group in the labyrinths of the Hebrides Islands. If he is not as lucky as the orphan spinner dolphin adopted by the hospitable Rangiroa bottle-nose dolphins, he could face death. Will he survive?

Natural History - 10x26'

## WHITE WHALES AND NARWHALS, THE CHATTERING OF GHOSTS

*Directed by: Bertrand LOYER*

International Marine and Exploration Film Festival - Toulon, France  
*Silver Anchor Award*

International Marine and Exploration Film Festival - Toulon, France  
*The François de Roubaix Award for Best Soundtrack*

Atlantic Television Festival (MAT) RTP - Azores, Portugal  
*Honorable Mention from Jury*

International Bird and Wildlife Film Festival - Abbeville, France  
*Special Mention from Jury for best Cinematography*

As the winter comes to an end in the Arctic, a beluga (also called white whale) named Ayla leads her troop through the icy underwater labyrinths. She struggles to survive in this hostile environment and unites with the elegant and mysterious narwhals. In a rare and unprecedented film, we discover that these Arctic blowers travel and protect their young with a group effort. Whales, mirages, phantom vessels, halibuts: these are just a few of the adventures of their breathtaking odyssey.

Natural History - 10x26'

## KIM AND ROXIE, THE SEA LIONESSES

*Directed by: Bertrand LOYER*

Worldwide Underwater Cinematography Festival - Antibes, France  
*Bronze Palm Award*

On the shores of the Valdez Peninsula in Patagonia, two young inseparable sea lionesses, Kim and Roxie, take us through an incredible 24-hour underwater odyssey. As we journey through their aquatic kingdom we encounter prickly grouper fish, notorious killer whales, invasive parasites, and succulent anchovies which the sea lionesses must share with the dolphins.

Natural History - 10x26'

## THE LEOPARD SEAL'S SHARE

Directed by: Luc JACQUET

International Wildlife Film Festival – Missoula, Montana USA

*Merit award for Underwater Footage*

*Merit Award for Original Score (Original Music)*

Worldwide Underwater Cinematography Festival - Antibes, France

*Silver Palm Award*

Worldwide Underwater Cinematography Festival - Antibes, France

*Best Music Composition*

Leopard seals are, along with killer whales, the only major predators of the Antarctic Ocean. Each year at the end of the summer in the southern hemisphere, leopard seals reach the coastlines of Graham Land to hunt penguins gathered there in large numbers to raise their young. They hunt so aggressively that the gentoo and chinstrap penguins are systematically obliged to thwart the leopard seal's vigilance in order to get food. Each time that a group of penguins enters the water, some of them are necessarily sacrificed to this predator... It is «the leopard seal's share».

Natural History - 10x26'

## «MARINE MAMMALS» : THE MAKING OF

Directed by: Bertrand LOYER

Nausicaa Festival - Boulogne sur Mer, France

*Young Public's Award*

Five years of high-risk filming in all the world's oceans have resulted in rare and unprecedented images of the mysterious marine mammals. The "behind the scenes" of underwater wildlife documentary are finally revealed as the filmmakers at Saint Thomas Productions disclose their privileged experiences alongside marine mammals. Throughout five years of travels, the filmmaker-divers have gathered myriad accounts and testimonies filled with a thrilling combination of fear, captivation, and respect. Their various experiences with bottlenose dolphins, killer whales, humpback whales, dugongs, leopard seals, and others have made a lasting contribution to the existing knowledge of marine mammal behavior. These expressive underwater creatures display spectacular play and rescue behavior. Come dive with our crew alongside our companions, the marine mammals.

Natural History - 10x26'

# MARINE MAMMALS

Mini series (2x26')

A SAINT THOMAS PRODUCTIONS production for RFO

## PONTAS, THE DUGONG

*Directed by: Bertrand LOYER*

International Underwater Film Festival - Antibes, France

*Award for Humour and Originality*

This is the rare document of an expedition in search of the last of the dugongs of the Pacific. In an unprecedented sequence, a dugong willingly and voluntarily approaches a human being: a diver. For the first time, we discover that the chirping cries of this sirenian are actually the result of the contractions of its forehead.

Natural History - 2x26'

## LEGENDARY WHALES

*Directed by: Bertrand LOYER*

New Caledonia has always been considered a privileged site for the observation of cetaceans. Each year, humpback whales arrive during the winter season of the Southern Hemisphere to reproduce and bear their young. Formerly, melanesians who possessed neither watch nor calendar, would synchronize their planting season with the arrival of these whales. Despite the changes brought on by analytic thought and western whale hunters onto this Pacific territory, the legend still remains and is respected by all. Today, whale hunting has been replaced by «whale watching» through the identification of tail flukes. Using this system, the scientist Claire Garrigue of ORSTOM is able to recognize the personal characteristics of individual whales from year to year. She follows their migrations from Antarctica all the way to New Caledonia.

Natural History - 2x26'

# FUNNY ANIMALS

(13x4')

This entertaining tour aimed towards a young audience will undoubtedly also seduce adult spectators. These 13x4-minute films all shot in the wild will take the audience on a seamless and original music-based journey across the world and reveal the strangest, craziest and most hilarious animal attitudes. The series comes with specially designed musical material which underlines the parody, the burlesque or satirizes classical music.

Fillers/Children's Programme - 13x4'

## A MAN AMONG ORCAS

A SAINT THOMAS PRODUCTIONS production for ANIMAL PLANET, FRANCE 2

*Directed by: Jean-François BARTHOD*

Filmar, International See and Environment Film Festival, Hendaye, France  
*City of Hendaye's Award*

San Francisco Ocean Film Festival, USA  
*Wildlife Award*

Underwater film festival - St. Petersburg, Russia  
*Grand Award and Best Photography Award*

International Film Festival - Dompierre-sur-Besbre, France  
*Best Documentary*

33rd festival of underwater image in Antibes - Juan les Pins, France  
*Palme de Bronze*

Nature Festival - Namur, Belgium  
*Gold tape of the Audience, city of Namur's award*

International Marine and Exploration Film Festival - Toulon, France  
*Silver Anchor*

Jules Verne Festival - Paris, France  
*Nature Award and Young Public's Award*

In the remote volcanic archipelago of the Crozet islands, meet David REICHERT, a cameraman who has an extraordinary talent to locate, approach and tame some of the wildest beasts on Earth. Enduring raging winds and icy waters with minimal protection, he enters the intimacy of elephant seals and orcas using clever ethological analyses and gets them used to his presence. Then comes the extraordinary: meet a man who communicates with penguins with body language, calms young seals and turns them into live pillows, lies underwater with eight ton orcas or mature male seals...

CONTEXT: David REICHERT is a young American wildlife filmmaker who has dedicated his life to his passion. Specialized in marine subjects, at ease in rough seas and icy waters, David has an incredible resistance to extreme environments and a real talent for dealing with complex wildlife situations. To achieve this unique film, he spent four months in an isolated bay on an island 2000 miles away from the nearest continent with Jean-François BARTHOD, another talented filmmaker and director with a solid experience as a DOP of feature films. The result is a very unusual wildlife documentary entirely shot on S16mm film.

Natural History - 1x52' HD

## FACE TO FACE WITH THE POLAR BEAR

A SAINT THOMAS PRODUCTIONS production for ANIMAL PLANET, CANAL+, ZDF, TSR

*Directed by: Jérôme BOUVIER*

International Wildlife Film Festival - Missoula, Montana, USA

*Merit Award for Script and Photography*

Bird and Wildlife Film Festival - Abbeville, France

*Nature Award and Public Award*

**SUMMARY:** In a remote fjord in Spitzberg, filmmaker Jerome BOUVIER spent a year following the incredible destiny of a polar bear family in a rapidly changing environment. The result is a universal and dramatic tale of survival. Casting brother and sister twin cubs, this tale focuses on their education and reveals their individual characters: while the young male imitates mother's seal hunting techniques, his sister plays or rests. After the weaning period, the animals need to fend for themselves and adapt what they've learnt to the ever-warmer summers. While the female tries in vain to hunt walruses, her brother successfully hunts for seals resting on drifting icebergs. Reducing her diet to easy-to-catch eider eggs and kelp, the she-bear can't sustain the energy requirements of her immense body. Growing thinner as rapidly as the glaciers, she fasts and finally meets a fatal end. Fortunately, her skilled brother reaches sexual maturity and migrates North to adapt to the changing conditions.

**CONTEXT:** To film this intimate portrait of white giants, filmmaker Jerome BOUVIER has circled around Spitzberg for a year with skidoos, buggies or sailing boats. He endured continuous blinding daylight in these viciously cold areas, with temperatures as low as minus 55 degrees Celsius and winds up to 30 miles per hour. The polar bear is the largest land carnivore and has the reputation of being the only animal that actively hunts humans. Polar bears are the most likely species to kill humans for food, as they assume anything they encounter is potential prey. Nevertheless, not much choice is given to the filmmaker: Jerome BOUVIER and his guides had to venture into the intimacy of these starving giants, relying only on sounds and visual displays to scare off the ever-inquisitive beasts.

Natural History - 1x52' HD

## SPERM WHALES, DEALING WITH THE UNEXPECTED

A SAINT THOMAS PRODUCTIONS production for DISCOVERY USA, CANAL+, NDR, ORF

*Directed by: Bertrand LOYER*

Filmar, International See and Environment Film Festival, Hendaye, France

*Best Award*

International Wildlife Film Festival - Missoula, Montana, USA

*Merit Award for Underwater Photography*

International Underwater Film Festival - Antibes Juan les Pins, France

*Wildlife Film Award*

7th Art and Science Festival - Noirmoutier, France

*Emerald Wave award of the Young Jury*

Around the Crozet Islands, here is the incredible odyssey of a family of Sperm Whales facing rapid changes in their environment. From the stormy surface to the eternal darkness of the abyss, several generations of these deep-sea divers encounter men and their "toys": harpoons of yesterday, and fishing lines of today. Once victim of whale hunting, now accused of stealing fish, a sperm whale shares its private life with us. And what an immersion! We discover in turn its mysterious sonar, its competitors like orcas, and also the strange world of its neighbours-the deep-sea monsters. Amongst them, a revelation: the biggest squid ever filmed in its natural environment, almost 15 feet long. Come and discover the depths of the Crozet abyss...

CONTEXT: this true tale of survival is shot in a rarely seen and utterly hostile corner of the Earth, the offshore waters of the Crozet islands. It took more than seven years to gain the trust of local authorities and fishermen to film this incredible concentration of giants of the open ocean. Thanks to international scientific collaboration, the production team managed to deploy Remote Operated Vehicles in the abyss and design cameras adapted to the extreme filming conditions of the Southern seas.

Natural History - 1x52' HD

## FUR SEALS, THE DARK SIDE

A SAINT THOMAS PRODUCTIONS production for ANIMAL PLANET EUROPE, ARTE, TÉLÉQUÉBEC, VIASAT

*Directed by: François DE RIBEROLLES*

Japan Wildlife Film Festival - Japan

*Underwater merit award*

34th International Underwater film festival - Antibes Juan les Pins, France

*«Planete Thalassa Award»*

Fur seals. We all know these circus animals which can juggle, jump, dance or applaud to the great joy of the audience. With large, tender eyes and a soft fur, they have been trained to entertain and amuse. This was our common vision, up to now now... Far from amusement parks, in the big frozen ocean surrounding Antarctica, the fur seal presents a very different face from that of the playful creature. This one-hour special unveils the dark side of this mysterious predator. Half way between a tale and an investigation, this film follows the destiny of a young male fur seal who has taken refuge on a remote volcanic island of the Southern Seas. An animal that kills more than it apparently needs to survive. No palm trees, no trainer or turquoise pools are to be seen here. Instead, he lives in a hostile world where the rules of survival are mastered through a strict learning process. All through the seal's coming of age, the self-taught animal moves through different stages that will in turn enable him to produce offspring: after a birth on land, the seal leaves for the high seas, endures storms, and above all, learns. He learns to hunt, to fight, to become an opportunistic predator but also to share the dusky dolphins' experience or to escape the killer whale's jaws.

Context: This film has involved very dedicated film crews in extreme situations: it was shot over a six year period in the remote Prince Edward Islands, in the utterly difficult open ocean of the so-called Roaring Forties and offshore Patagonia. It delivers both a comprehensive biography of a popular animal and a very modern approach to natural history. This film associates an unusual soundtrack with Rap songs to more classical blue chip behavior, most of which has never been seen before.

Natural History - 1x52'

## KILLER WHALES- UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

A SAINT THOMAS PRODUCTIONS production for BBC, DISCOVERY, CANAL+ and NHK

*Directed by: Bertrand LOYER*

World Underwater Film Festival - Antibes, France

*Gold Palm Award and French President Special Award*

Jules Verne Festival - Paris, France

*Best Director Award*

During four years of shooting in the icy waters that surround the volcanic archipelago of the Crozet Islands, we have followed the trial and tribulations of Delphine, a young female adolescent killer whale. Living and growing within her family group she gradually learns how to find her bearings, how to hunt king penguins or Minke whales and how to get stranded in order to catch sea elephants. For the first time divers have dared to swim next to these great predators and have brought back an amazing collection of unique shots. Come and join us in the world of the Crozet Islands and their undisputed masters...

To date, this film is the only one-hour pure blue chip featuring killer whale in a unique environment. It has no equivalent and will not have until a dedicated filming crew is willing to spend such a long time in a hostile environment... diving in icy cold waters while killer whale eating a minke whale, spending a full year in a remote hut waiting for the animal to visit the shores, or risking ones' life to dive among preys while killer whale are hunting.

Natural History - 1x52'

## LEOPARD SEALS, LORDS OF THE ICE

A SAINT THOMAS PRODUCTIONS production for CANAL+,  
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNELS INTERNATIONAL

Broadcast on ANIMAL PLANET USA, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNELS, ZDF,  
CANAL+, ABC, CHANNEL 5.

*Directed by: Jérôme BOUVIER and Jean-François BARTHOD*

Jules Verne film festival - Paris, France  
*Special Jury Award*

Valvert European film Festival - Brussels, Belgium  
*Best Cinematography*

Who are these ferocious predators of the Antarctic continent that kill each year thousands of penguins and leave some injured birds behind to the scavengers of the ice? To find out, come and follow Göran Ehlme, an experienced underwater cinematographer and expert of the cold seas, in his quest to uncover the fascinating behavior of the secretive... Leopard Seals. Amidst the pristine but freezing waters surrounding the white continent, the audience will be given a unique insight into the mysterious daily lives of Leopard Seals and discover some never-before-filmed behaviors of these highly intelligent predators. «Killer seals» will reveal how Leopard Seals hunt penguins underwater or on land, charging unwary trespassers on the ice, be they penguin or human! Thanks to Göran Ehlme's close and emotional relationship with Leopard Seals, the public will be astonished to discover that each animal has – like human beings – its own distinctive character and moods. Göran is one of the rare divers in the world who dares to defy the deadly jaws of this predator in order to gain its trust and solve the mystery of its natural but puzzling aggressive temper.

Natural History - 1x52'

## PENGUIN BAYWATCH, ANTARCTICA

A SAINT THOMAS PRODUCTIONS production for ARTE, ZDF

*Directed by: Cyril BARBANCON*

International Wildlife Festival- Missoula, USA

*Finalist Award and Merit Award for Educational Value*

Japan Wildlife Film Festival- Japan

*Finalist*

Meet Chinstrap, Macaroni, Adelie, Gentoo, King and... Queen. Spend a year with them in the icy waters or on the volcanic islands of the vast Southern Ocean. Do not fall from the cliff when you leave in the morning and always be certain to catch the right wave on your return home before sunset. Watch out your "friends" who are always ready to push you off the iceberg. On rocky outcrops, always keep your distances with your neighbour, at least 2 feet. Meet your partner this evening, as it is your turn to take care of your fat feathered kids for the next 15 days. Most important of all: if you want to see your family again, avoid all welcoming committees of Fur Seals and departure festivities of Leopard Seals. How does it feel to be a penguin?

Natural History - 1x52'

## PENGUIN BAYWATCH, SUB-ANTARCTIC ISLANDS

A SAINT THOMAS PRODUCTIONS production for FRANCE 3,  
National Geographic Channels International

Directed by: Luc JACQUET

International Ornithological Film Festival - Menigoute, France  
*Crédit Agricole Award*

In the summer, space becomes dear on the beaches of the sub-Antartic islands. There, penguins and sea elephants live jumbled up together, caught in the throes of breeding and bringing up the little ones.

Such overpopulation leads to tensions between species and individuals. The crowds of penguins and sea-elephants attract many scavenging birds as well as dangerous predators like giant fulmars, the vultures of those icy climes, and orcs full of hunting tricks and tactics. More agile, the otaries, and the wandering albatrosses, those indefatigable gliders, seem to escape the chaotic throng. Like the other animals, however, they are dependent on the ocean, their only source of food in these deserted regions.

When winter comes, this cohabitation ends. Their breeding duties finished, the different animals return to the waters they are used to wander in.

Natural History - 1x52'

## THE ADOPTED DOLPHIN

A SAINT THOMAS PRODUCTIONS production for CANAL+

*Directed by: Bertrand LOYER*

The dolphin is still full of surprises. Group assistance, an unknown side of this charismatic animal's behavior, is the central theme of this documentary presented as a scientific tale. Unveiling a wide range of behaviors in oceans around the globe, this initiatory voyage depicts the dolphin's altruistic world as we follow the misadventures of one of them in search of a host group. May it be while hunting fish stranded in shallow waters in South Carolina, playing with a venomous snake in the Rangiroa lagoon, defending the group against a tiger shark attack in the Marquesas islands, parading in the crystal-clear pacific waters or surfing on waves from the bows of tankers in Texas, everything relies on the group: the dolphin needs to be surrounded by its peers to feed, defend himself, communicate and breed.

Natural History - 1x52'

## WILDLIFE FILMMAKERS : MISHAPS AND DANGERS

A SAINT THOMAS PRODUCTIONS production for CANAL+.

*Directed by: Guillaume POYET*

Wildlife films spy for us into the natural world and bring to the comfort of our armchairs beautiful, moving and breathtaking footage. Behind their cameras, filmmakers face mishaps, experience fears, apprehensions but also big laughs. Theirs is a world of patience, unpredictability and danger. To find out about these intense moments, let's turn the cameras on them.

Following gorillas in the forests of Rwanda, filming cheetahs chasing their prey or putting inquisitive gorillas at ease by letting them satisfy their curiosity requires great art. If filming in the wild can be a risky business in places like the African Savannah, crews also encounter hilarious situations: they must sometimes submit to the animals' appetite for social contact. Ingenuity, compromises and acrobatic skills are often needed to capture on film several second sequences.

The result is a funny and entertaining film which takes us behind the scenes and shows us what filmmakers must go through to bring us images of the natural world.

Natural History - 1x52'

## SHARKS, SCAVENGERS OF THE SEAS

A SAINT THOMAS PRODUCTIONS production for CANAL+

*Directed by: Cyril BARBENCON and Bertrand LOYER*

Japan Wildlife Film Festival - Japan

*Best Underwater Film*

Before being an earthly paradise with enchanting colours, the lagoon of New-Caledonia is above all a paradise for sharks. Usually considered as fierce predators, sharks really are opportunistic scavengers. Scavengers that are not too picky when it comes to their menu: feathers, fins or fur, anything will do. Amongst the most striking scenes which punctuate this documentary filmed for four years in New Caledonia, is the never-seen-before sequence of the planet's greatest animal, a weakened blue whale, attacked and cleaned up by hordes of sharks from the surface down to the abyss. Even more impressive: can you imagine jackfish attacking alive turtles in shallow seas at full speed, even faster than shark themselves? More jaw dropping footage in this unique film all shot in one exotic place, from the warm tropical lagoon down to the abyss.

Natural History - 1x52'

## SCAVENGERS OF SAVANNAH

A SAINT THOMAS PRODUCTIONS production for CANAL+

*Directed by: Pascal PLISSON*

International Wildlife Film Festival - Missoula, Montana USA  
*Best Documentary Finalist*

6th Sichuan TV Festival - China  
*Jury Special Award*

As soon as a wildebeest dies, lions feed on its carcass for a week or more. Soon after, other scavengers will come for their share: vultures, marabou storks, and hyenas will all come to feed. Over a period of five months, using the latest techniques of macro and aerial photography, this film will follow the life and death of wildebeest, to reveal the world of the scavengers on the plains of Tanzania and Kenya.

This extraordinary film features the largest wildebeest migration of the XXst century: a drought following an extreme El nino pushed all the beasts toward the green plains of Kenya. Some very unique material has been gathered during this epic shoot, like the unforgettable footage of hippos removing wildebeest carcasses from the Mara river's oxbows or several young zebras caught in the dangerous river flow.

Natural History - 1x52'

## THE TICK AND THE BIRD

A SAINT THOMAS PRODUCTIONS production for FRANCE 3,  
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNELS INTERNATIONAL

*Directed by: Luc JACQUET*

European Film Festival - Valvert, Belgium

*Best Script Cristal Eagle Award*

International Ornithological Film Festival - Menigoute, France

*Best Commentary Award*

Once upon a time, there was a flea who lived buried deep in the feathers of a Laysan Albatross. Together, they travelled across the tormented oceans of the Pacific Ocean landing only on very rare occasions. Until one day... the albatross chooses to land on Midway an island 3000km off any land coast, to mate and start a family. Taking advantage of the physical closeness of this bird couple, the flea seizes the opportunity to explore the feathers of the female, from where she will witness the hatching of an egg. Then, the flea quickly prefers to jump onto the soft duvet of the young bird, not yet able to fly. In the nest, the young albatross discovers all the dangers which surround him, such as the penguins who come and steal food left by his parents. This provides an excellent opportunity for the flea, who decides to discover new feathers - the first of many to come. The flea will, from here on, share the same life style of the petrels, royal penguins, both adult and juvenile. In its little air bubble, the flea is protected from the pressure of the water whenever its hosts go for a dip in order to hunt for krill or anchovies. To keep a safe guard over its territory, the flea will confront ticks and other lice who will have, like itself, colonised the fur of their hosts.

This documentary, based on scientific research and fact, unites harmoniously the natural habits of these birds, which has been filmed during four months in Hawaii, and digital images of the flea created through computer graphics.

Natural History - 1x52'

## THE DIVA MUMMY

A SAINT THOMAS PRODUCTIONS production for ARTE, NHNZ,  
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNELS

*(WW French speaking rights and Iberia only)*

*Directed by: Steve TALLEY*

This film depicts the story of one Han aristocrat, the Lady of Dai, the best-preserved corpse archaeologists have ever found. More than two thousand years after her death, her skin was still elastic and her blood still red in her veins. Scientists autopsied her body as though she had died the day before. Since her body was discovered in 1972, more and more Han corpses, many of them in equally astonishing states of preservation, have been emerging from the Chinese earth.

This incredible film resurrects the lives and bring to life the personalities of these extraordinary men and women, the most privileged people of their time and follow today's scientific quest to fathom the ancient secrets behind their incredible state of preservation.

Science - 1x52'