

# anonymous animals

The balance of power between man and animal is reversed



**"A DEVASTATING METAPHOR THAT WON'T LET YOU BREATHE"**

ADMIT ONE  
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A FILM BY BAPTISTE ROUVEURE "ANONYMOUS ANIMALS"

THIERRY MARCOS AURELIEN CHILARSKI EMILIE LAVAUT DIRECTORS OF PHOTOGRAPHY EMMANUEL DAUCHY KEVIN BRUNET BAPTISTE ROUVEURE GAFFER  
SOPHIE MAYA-BERNARD SOUND ENGINEER ALYSON DIJOUX MAKE-UP CONSTANCE SAVELLI LOCATION MANAGER MARION ROUVEURE MUSIC BY DAMIEN MAUREL SOUND DESIGN THEO HOURBEIGT  
SOUND EDITOR JEAN-FRANCOIS TERRIEN POST-PRODUCTION SOUND ID SOUND COLORIST GRAZIELLA ZANONI POST-PRODUCTION IMAGE FRENCH KISS  
SPECIAL EFFECTS OGMYOS DESIGN FILM EDITING BAPTISTE ROUVEURE ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS MICHAEL KRAETZER NICOLAS ONETTI  
PRODUCTION ANONYMOUS ANIMALS FILMS WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY BAPTISTE ROUVEURE

## synopsis

The balance of power between man and animal is reversed.

In a remote countryside,  
any encounter with the dominant can become hostile.

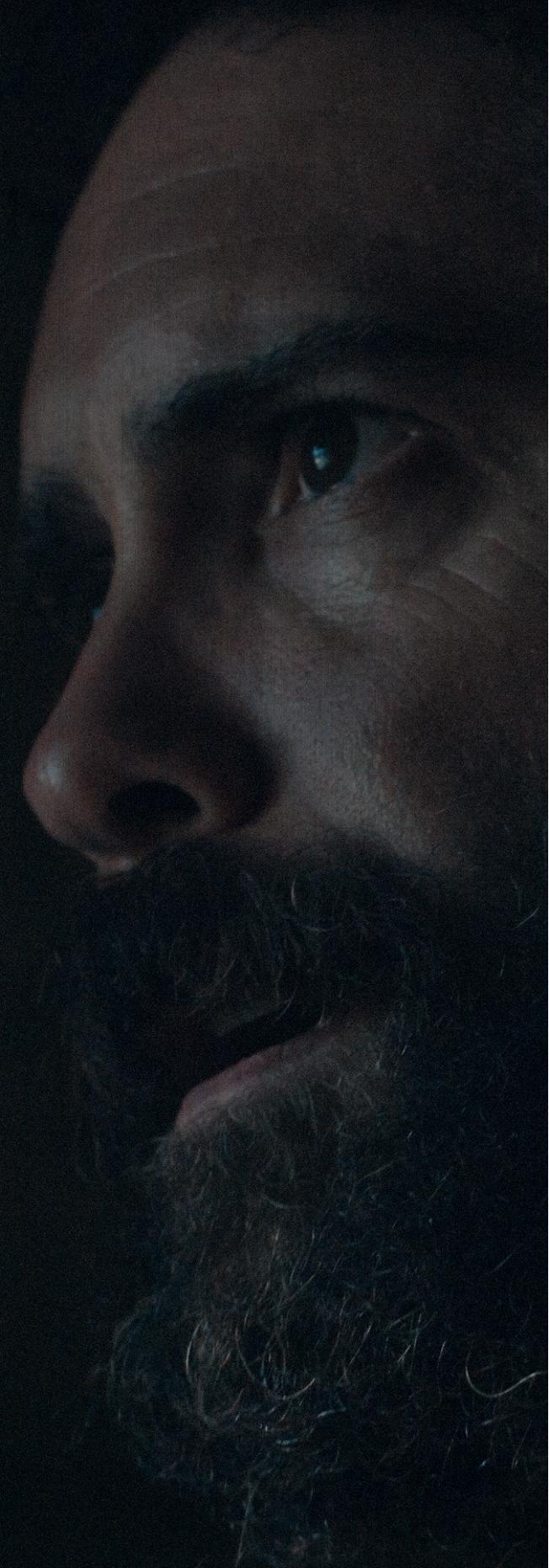


# genesis

ANONYMOUS ANIMALS has its origin in an obsessive image: that of a horse attacking man under carnivorous impulses. This unconscious nightmare image has come to nourish other real ones, from a rural childhood. Because of my proximity to a natural environment, I have been a privileged observer of a wild nature, but also a witness to the fateful hold of man on animals through exploitation and hunting. These sometimes bloody, macabre, cruel pictures have come to nourish over time a strong empathy towardsthe animal and a constant questioning of its place in our society.

This carnivorous horse that haunted me was the result of a dysfunction, a sick and dying nature. This digression of the food chain was then transformed during the writing of the film, into a transposition of the bodies between man and animal. The resulting anthropomorphic animals act according to our codes as dominant, exploiters, hunters, carrying within them a dehumanization towards the... human species.

This crossing of the mirror thus places the human protagonists under the yoke of animal domination, for whom they are nameless silhouettes, anonymous animals, drowned in volumes of exploitations where each is interchangeable with the other.





## the gender issue

ANONYMOUS ANIMALS therefore takes place at animal level. By adopting a point of view that responds to primitive instincts, the intention was to depict a state of anxiety and apprehension about human action that could conceal as many enigmas as threatening behaviours. Faced with the unknown, from which dark aims hover, the question of suspense naturally arises.

It then became obvious to fully embrace the gender codes and thus offer a sensory experience that plays on tension, apprehension and fear. Primitive emotions and reflexes that respond to the cinematographic spectacle but which above all give us the opportunity to feel the feverish emotions of these anonymous animals.



## the absence of dialogue

This first feature film follows in the footsteps of a series of films without words (AND THE WINNER IS, LES EPHEMERES FUGITIFS, ALTERA) which already focused on body language: the gesture taking precedence over words, movement over dialogue.

For "The anonymous animals", the first sketches of dialogues quickly appeared superfluous and futile. Placed in an environment they do not master, the senses of the protagonists are constantly alert and the slightest movement expresses an intention. The purification of the dialogues has thus rehabilitated silence, silence has given way to something organic and universal.

This sensory approach was in line with the idea of the communication barrier between man and animal: By inverting everyone's places, I wanted to keep this inability to decipher the language of these anonymous animals in order to preserve only a purely physical exchange.

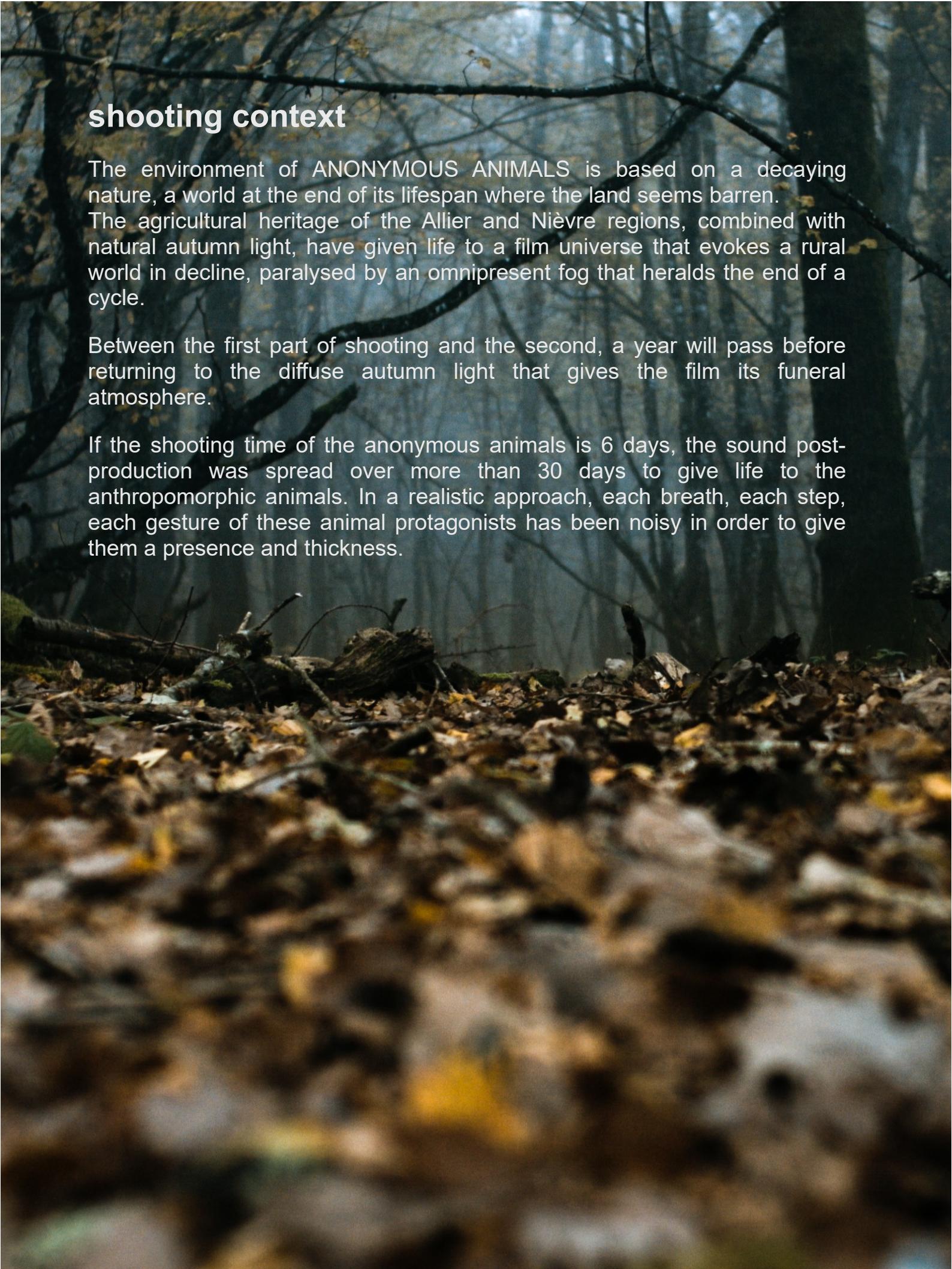
## shooting context

The environment of *ANONYMOUS ANIMALS* is based on a decaying nature, a world at the end of its lifespan where the land seems barren.

The agricultural heritage of the Allier and Nièvre regions, combined with natural autumn light, have given life to a film universe that evokes a rural world in decline, paralysed by an omnipresent fog that heralds the end of a cycle.

Between the first part of shooting and the second, a year will pass before returning to the diffuse autumn light that gives the film its funeral atmosphere.

If the shooting time of the anonymous animals is 6 days, the sound post-production was spread over more than 30 days to give life to the anthropomorphic animals. In a realistic approach, each breath, each step, each gesture of these animal protagonists has been noisy in order to give them a presence and thickness.



# biography of baptiste rouveure

In addition to commissioned films (clips and films promotionnal), Baptiste Rouveure continues his work in fiction, where movement and body language remain his preferred approach.

His short film **AND THE WINNER IS** depicts a boxer fighting his double. Among the international selections, the film received the **BEST SHORT FILM** award at the *35th Rassegna Cinematographica Internazionale Festival* in Italy.

In 2018 **ALTERA** invites 13 dancers into a dystopic world to talk about the rejection of the other and the resulting withdrawal into oneself. The film stands out with 29 selections in official competitions in more than 19 countries. It won twice the prize for **BEST DANCE FILM** (*Imajitari International Dance Film* - Indonesia and *Moving Body Festival* - Bulgaria), the prize for **BEST EDITING** (*Muestra Movimiento audiovisual* - Mexico) and the *3th PRIZE* at *Shortwave Festival* in Poland.

**ANONYMOUS ANIMALS** is Baptiste Rouveure's first feature film. The film, without words, questions the place of the animal in our societies, through the prism of fantasy and thriller.

2020 **Anonymous Animals** - 64 mn (feature film)

2018 **Altera** - 11 mn (short film)

2015 **Atome Hotel** - 30 x 3 mn (documentary series)

2012 **Les éphémères fugitifs** - 5 mn (short film)

2012 **And the winner is** - 11 mn (short film)

2007 **L'haschischin** – 14 mn (short film)



## technical and artistic list

64mn - 2.39 - 2k et 4k

written and directed by	baptiste rouveure
cast	thierry marcos aurélien chilarski emilien lavaut emmanuel dauchy kevin brunet baptiste rouveure sophie maya-bernard alyson dijoux constance savelli marion rouveure damien maurel théo hourbeigt jean-françois terrien graziella zanoni théo rol baptiste rouveure anonymous animals films
director of photography	
chief electrician	
sound	
make-up	
stage manager	
original music	
sound design	
mixing	
colorist	
special effects	
editing	
production	

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