

SAMOVAR PRODUCTIONS PRESENT
ROCK ON BONES
 A FILM BY CAROLINE TROUBETZKOY

— —

“A vertiginous
 dive into
 Russian Rock,
 an endless road
 of discoveries...”



OFFICIAL SELECTION
**INTERNATIONAL
 FILM FESTIVAL
 ROTTERDAM**
 2015



Jihlava IDFF
 Official Selection

Directed & Produced by Caroline Troubetzkoy
 Music by Igor Salnikov

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FILM INFORMATIONS

FILM TITLE

Rock On Bones

LOG LINE

A vertiginous dive into Russian Rock,
an endless road of discoveries.

CONTACTS

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TECHNICAL

Color : Colour and B&W

Language : French, English, Russian

Year of Production : 2014

Running Time: 134 minutes

Filmed in : France, Russia

SCREENING HISTORY

Jihlava International Documentary Film Festival - October 25, 2014
IFFR, International Film Festival Rotterdam - January 27, 2015

SYNOPSIS

V. OFF : - "... It's only in 1986 that Rock music was authorized in Russia...

February, Burgundy.

Igor and I are locked up in an isolated house, in the middle of the forest.

Two years before.

I witness a concert by his Russian punk rock band, The Oz.

Their energy and their music hits me in the face. I decide to follow them, with my camera, help them break through the European musical scene.

We thus start a project: make a road movie and record their new album in Saint Petersburg.

Understand where they truly come from.

They make me discover the delirious underground scene of Saint Petersburg.

The more I plunge into their history, the more they give me access to some parts of the hidden iceberg, strong emotional shocks.

An adventure that will bring us in a merry-go-round of enchantments, disillusion, and discoveries followed by a series of obstacles that will make us think that a spell is trying to block the project.

February, Burgundy.

I'm a hostage in my own house.

These two years of total immersion, bursts and perseverance have worn us, Igor and I, to the bone.

DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHY

Caroline Troubetzkoy attended the Ecole Supérieure d'Etudes Cinématographiques in Paris, and adds to her directing education work as an intern for film production companies such as Publicis, Shoot Again, Laboratoire Technique du Cinéma. Quickly, she directs a short film V.I.T.R.I.O.L. and works as an assistant on several short films, documentaries and directs her first medium documentary - Et la lumière fût broadcasted on TV Planete and TMC. DCJ Films takes an interest in her work and commissions a script for a feature film - Eye Sight. This encourages her to write a further two - Organe (International Competition Writemovies finalist) and La fin du Bal that she directs, produces and presents at the short corner Cannes festival.



Since her encounter with the Russian rock band The Oz BroZ, she has been developing an ongoing project with them, including a music album, video-clips and a conceptual soundtrack of the feature creative documentary Rock on Bones that she produces and directs.

DIRECTOR FILMOGRAPHY

- VITRIOL - 20' Short fiction
- Et la lumière fût - 52' documentary
- La fin du bal - 60' fiction
- Ocean sublime - 4' Video clip
- Welcome song - 4' Video clip
- Rock on Bones - 134' creative documentary

DIRECTOR STATEMENT

Just before I met the band The Oz Broz, I was gathering all the information I could on Vladimir Vissotski to write, and later direct, a biopic on him. I discovered Vissotsky many years ago and each time I hear his voice, his anger, I tremble. At the same time I was programming rock bands in our art center and music club in Paris, La Blanchisserie...

So,
They pop up into my life, destiny...
3000km separated us, but that's not all of it.
They've come a long way, very long way...
Hard to imagine when here we've got everything so easily
Music, literature...
Their parents used to hide to listen forbidden music on medical X rays
Even them, in their teens, had to secretly buy Beatles cds at the Finnish border...
How not to be moved by their stories?
Their uncertain freedom?
Nowadays, engaged artists still live under the threat of jail

It's a friend of mine who introduces them to me,
He sends me a link,
I listen,
I re-listen...
And fall completely when I hear GOD...

“God”, a John Lennon song, reinterpreted by the band, The Oz

Impossible for me not to share this emotion, I dive into this strong desire...
I invite them to perform here at La Blanchisserie.

These people, their story, the strength that guides them, moves me deeply.
Lead by their thirst for new horizons, they radiate before my eyes, far from their daily torments.

To blend in, to be accepted...
I decide to follow them, camera in hand.

Since then, the camera was part of us, as another person. Everybody around had forgotten her presence. Even for myself, It was a natural extension of my arm, moving by itself, shooting night and days, witnessing rehearsals, gigs, the dark and light sides of ourselves. And at some extreme moment of tension, she was my guardian angel.

We were diving into a deep vertiginous “mise en abîme” of ourselves, exploring the sinuous roads of life, facing all it’s up and down sides.

The project was to create and record the new album of the band, written and composed by the leader of the Oz Broz, Igor Salnikov, and make this movie following the band to highlight the steps of the music creation with all it can provoke it terms of emotions.

I built the movie as a journal and to light up the Russian background of the band, the film is punctuated by some exceptional and rare historical modules as well as some testimonies of the Saint Petersburg underground artists, writers, musicians...

This film is also for me a pure unvarnished performance of three years of our lives, loosing some of our flying feathers on the way but also collecting the gifts of experiences by pushing our limits as far as resilience and perseverance could lead us all.

PRESS

An encounter between a French director and the Russian punk band The Oz launched a more than two-year journey between Paris and St. Petersburg. Captivated by the band's charismatic singer Igor Salnikov, Caroline Troubetzkoy decides to help The Oz break through in the West. In return, she gets an exclusive opportunity to learn about the history of Russian rock'n'roll and its politically charged contexts, and gains access to rare footage for a highly personal film that exceeds the definition of documentary and tends towards performance.

- *Jihlava International Documentary Film Festival* -

A young French filmmaker decides that the charismatic Russian punk band Oz deserves a career in the West. Besides two years of fun and frustration, this autobiographical rockumentary also offers surprising insights into alternative music from the former Soviet Union. Raw, energetic and pretty self-destructive.

French filmmaker Caroline Troubetzkoy became fascinated by Russian punks The Oz after hearing their version of John Lennon's God. The four rough-and-ready Russians turned out not to be easy objects of affection, however. As eternal contrarians, the punks were good at snarling and behaving in a reckless and incendiary manner.

Troubetzkoy nevertheless decided to film the group for a period of two years. What starts out as a road movie ends up a psychological, anthropological essay by the filmmaker. The trips in the company of her unpredictable subjects regularly get out of hand, encompassing every emotion on the scale.

The contrast between the beautifully shot background images and the everyday goings-on is as manic as the band itself. This material is supplemented by historical images giving context and explanation. Rock on Bones gives a contemporary face to the Russian alternative music scene - a particularly humorous, uneasy portrait of a band that eschews both success and obscurity.

- *IFFR, International Film Festival Rotterdam* -

CREDITS

Directed by
Caroline Troubetzkoy

Production compagny
Samovar Productions

Edited by
Elliot Storey

Additional camera
Vadim Sheterikov
Didier Magrot

Music by
Igor Salnikov

Sound Mixer
Nicolas Titeux

Produced by
Caroline Troubetzkoy

FEATURING

(in order of appearance)

Caroline Troubetzkoy
Igor Salnikov
Yulli Tereshenkov
Vadim Shesterikov
Denis Starkov
Pavel Smirnov
Sasha
Aleksander Shvanev
Nicolas Schmitt
Alexei Batoussov
Andrei Miroshikov
Louis Delorme
Félix Beguin
Marc Zeller
Syd Alexander
Charles Sarraute
Leatitia Perret
Andrei Tropillo

Galina Okulova
Kita Statnykh
Dimitri Shagin
Thierry
Marco
Gille Petitpas
Fabrice de Rohan Chabot
Igor Troubetzkoy
Vadim Troubetzkoy
Aelig de Rohan Chabot
Dmitriy Russkih
Max Lyapunov
Eugene Kolbashev
Mikhail Sapego
Olivier Viscat
Benjamin Nail
Martin from Frome
Elliot Storey
Daniel L Moisan
Martin Dimerey