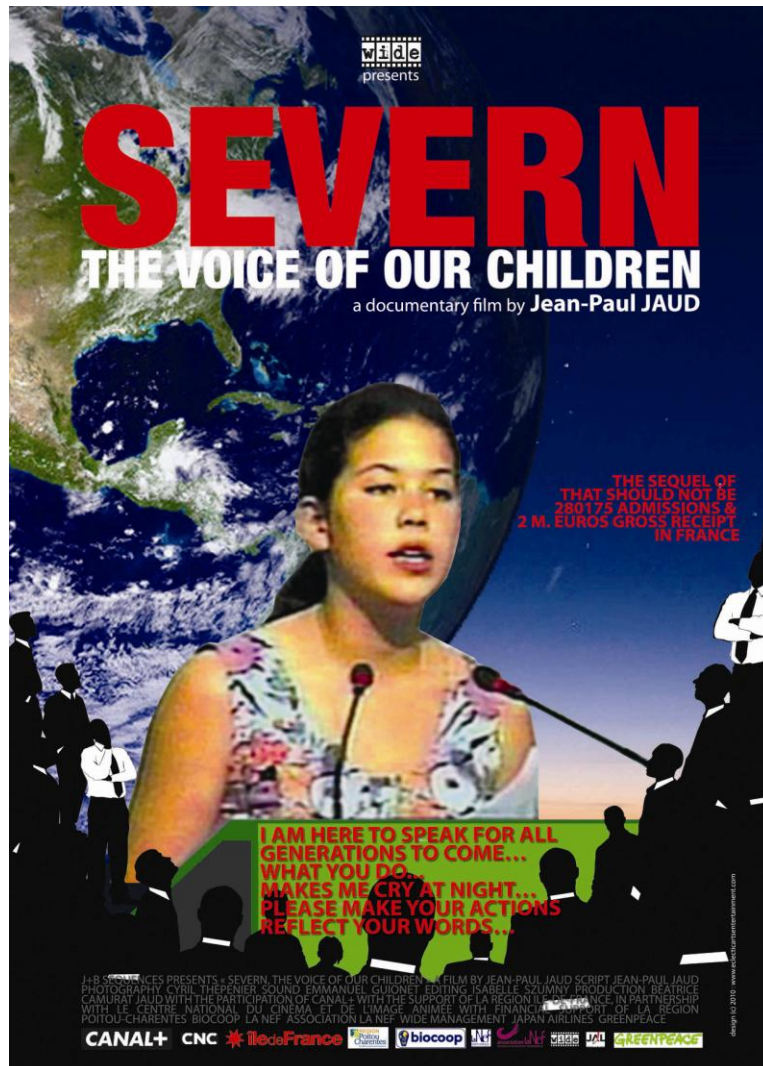


Presents



A documentary film by Jean-Paul Jaud

120 minutes - 35 mm - HD - Jpeg2000
International Sales:
Wide Management

Contact us at:
Jean-Paul JAUD +33 (0)6 11 74 32 30
Béatrice JAUD +33 (0)6 09 47 47 54
contact@jplusb.fr

www.severn-lefilm.com



Synopsis

“I am here to speak for all generations to come...”

... What you do makes me cry at night...

...Please make your actions reflect your words ...”

1992: 1st Earth Summit, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. For the first time in human history, a child, Severn, calls out to the whole planet.

18 years later, our actions are still different from our speeches. The Earth is still in the same state and Severn is now expecting her first child. She speaks again, showing that despite the emergency, it is still possible to change the course of things.

In this documentary full of hope and emotion, Severn embodies a reference for those people, from Canada to Japan going through France, who act in concrete and positive terms in order to respect biodiversity.

Who will answer Severn’s call?



“Severn, The voice of our children” is the sequel to **“That should not be”**.

Characters



IN CANADA

Severn Cullis-Suzuki, Canadian, ecological activist, lecturer and television front woman which in 1992, while she was only 12 years old, attended with her classmates the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. She then made an unforgettable speech which was received with wild applause in the assistance and which unfortunately resounds today more extremely than ever. Severn now works in order to set up the simple stages which make it possible for the families to protect our planet and the health of our children. Preparing the next shooting location in May will enable us to develop with Severn Cullis Suzuki the problems of poisonings by Bisphenol A, the measurements taken by the Canadian government, as well as the presence of GMOs in Canadian cultures.





IN JAPAN

Takao Furuno lives in the suburbs of Fukuoka, 900 Km away from Tokyo. He is a rice grower and uses ancestral husbandries and popular traditions while bringing modernity. He cultivates his rice while making ducks wade in his rice plantations. No more need for chemicals: the ducks do the work by stirring up the funds and oxygenating them, their defections being obviously of excellent manures.



The 161 grandmothers of the village of Ikeda, 45 Km away from Fukui, who met in association to maintain lands of their valley arable and to provide organic vegetables to the children of the village. The mayor of the village of Ikeda (3



500 inhabitants) decided to develop a small organic agriculture of proximity, by encouraging the



grandmothers of the village to meet in association. It thus wishes to maintain the arable lands and to give an enhancing occupation to those growing-old people. They are today 161 “grannies” to feed 270 children every day by providing the collective catering to the village. The mayor of Ikeda had to create a “local organic label”, the standards of the organic food not existing in Japan. They represent 0,17% of the organic products sold in Japan.





IN FRANCE

In Barjac (Gard)



Edouard Chaulet : He was the main character in « That Should not be », because of his decision to convert the scholar restaurant of his village into organic. The Mayor of Barjac has from now on decided to win back the foster lands around the village. Those lands, named “La grange des près”, are 3 km from Barjac. One of his main actions will be to help to convert those lands

into organic in order to guarantee a provisioning to the scholar restaurant.

Professor Gilles-Eric Séralini: University professor, he made research in molecular biology and is the author of “GMO, The Real Debate”. He was one of the first scientists to warn us against dangers related to genetically modified organisms (GMOs).

Guy Kastler : He is a farmer in the Aude department. Official representative at Confédération Paysanne, he is also a coordinator at Semences Paysannes Network. He has been defending the free-trade between small and organic producers





Sjoerd Wartena : has been living in France for 30 years but he kept his accent and pragmatism from the Netherlands where he was born. He is very proud to be President of the association Terre de Liens. Thanks to the landholding trust he helped to launch, he just got the authorization from the markets to raise 3 millions euros from the government.

Terre de Liens brings a new and effective solution thanks to the mobilization of the interdependent saving by citizens. It is a concrete initiative to fight against the disappearance of farms, to help out the arable lands against land speculation and to help organic farmers to settle or to maintain their activity by removing them from the weight of the acquisition of the land.



In the Region Poitou-Charentes

Paul François, farmer, was intoxicated by pesticides in 2004. Since then, he has been fighting to recover his health and to convince farmers to use less chemical products. He believes communication between conventional and organic farmers is mandatory because they have to exchange their knowledge to each other. He perfectly understands how organic agriculture means high technologies and moreover respect of biodiversity.



Nicolas Wisser, bio-dynamic farmer and Mayor of the village of Bioussac, was 20 years ago an object of derision for the inhabitants of the village. Little by little, year after year, he's managed to convince them. Nicolas Wisser is the initiator of "Zero pesticide" politics in the region Poitou-Charentes, politics he brings into play in his village. Today, more than 100 communities have signed on a unique Charter in France, which is absolutely crucial for our children's health.



Benoît Biteau, is a convinced environmentalist. For 3 years he has been changed the family field into organic. His initiative was awarded by the Ministry of Agriculture as an example of sustainable development. He has parceled the field in cultures and meadows in order to install conservatory breeding.



In Flins-sur-Seine, in the Region Ile-de-France

Nicolas Hulot : this very famous French journalist has been very much engaged in the protection of the environment through large audience awareness campaign. He got even more notorious by the political spheres in 1997 by having the Ecological Pact signed by most of the French presidential candidates.

Pierre Rabhi: Without never raising the voice, this untiring small man, farmer, writer and philosopher tries since decades to raise our humanity and to replace humans and nature in the centre of our concerns. It carries out a ceaseless combat for the rehabilitation of the traditional cultures. The “culture” of agriculture is for him in perdition. It is up to men to save it. He raises two fundamental questions: Which planet will we leave to our children? Which children will we leave to our planet?

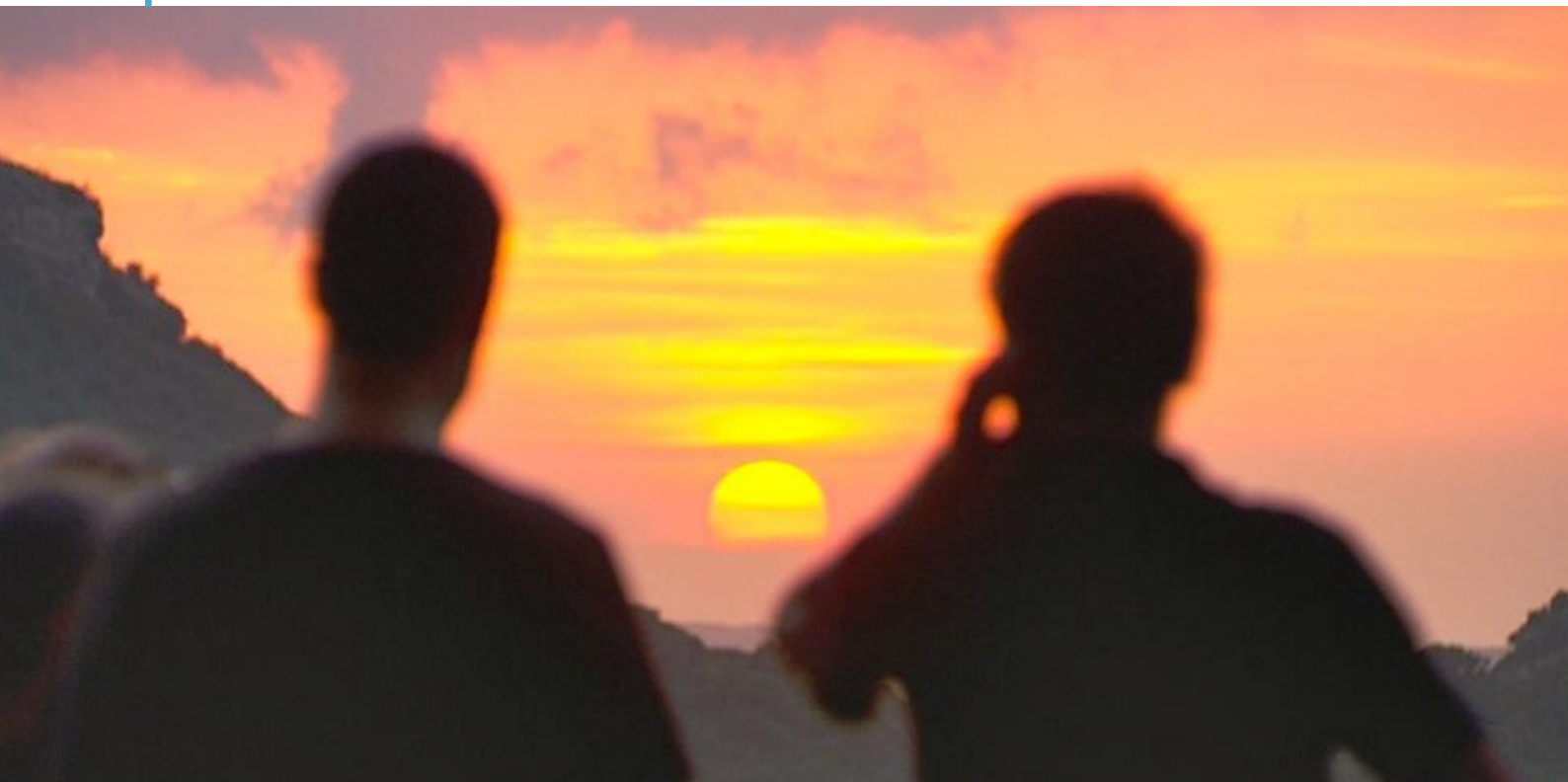
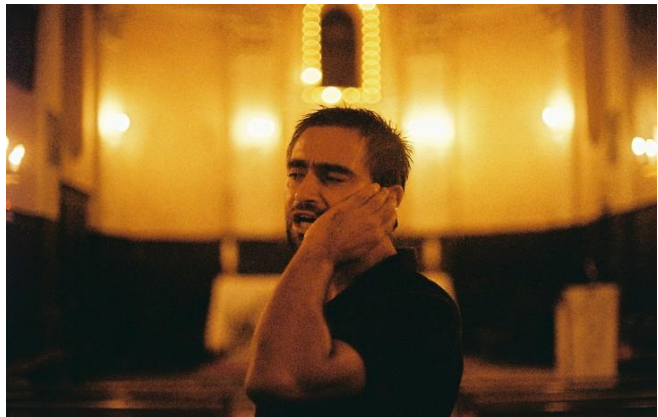


Ondine Eliot: From her 12 years old, this young girl has been passionate about nature, animals and sea since she was a little child. She has understood shark is a marvelous animal and it is in danger. Very determined, she decided to fight in order to stop the massacre of sharks. This “Severn’s child” scours France to inform and convince people. She has created an association, “Passion des requins”, and a blog.



In Corsica

Arena family: Antoine Arena and his two sons fight to protect biodiversity in Corsica. His wine property in Patrimonio is one of the most prestigious in France. Antoine Arena tries to keep the balance between the traditional knowledge with the best of modern techniques of organic agriculture. He includes future generations into his agricultural representation. His words and experience are rich of teaching about the intergenerational respect.



Cultures



« *When everything falls down, culture stands up. Culture is not a luxury. It is the soul of the Haitian people. Haiti will keep on living and creating while burying its dead.* »

said Haitian writer Dany Laferrière, after the earthquake that devastated Haiti in January 2010.



Cultures have an essential importance in Severn, the voice of our children. They deeply resound with their territories: Taiko, traditional musics and masks in Japan, Indian songs in Haïda Gwaaï, Corsican songs in Patrimoine, Bach performed by Gabriel Yared in France. Gabriel Yared appears on screen for the first time while performing a master piece on the piano. He plays the melody of “Mohira”, created for Jean-Paul Jaud’s previous film *That should not be*.

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GABRIEL YARED BIOGRAPHY

In 1979, Gabriel Yared wrote his first original score for the movie industry for *Sauve qui peut la vie* a film by Jean-Luc Godard. 30 years, 70 films and an Oscar later, he keeps on surprising by his astonishing eclecticism, his composition’s richness in creativity and originality, his perfect mastery of classical musical writing combined with the most sophisticated techniques of actual musics.

Resisting Hollywood permanent calls, Yared has not stopped proving his will to escape a too strict label by only working with directors who can guaranteed him a total freedom in creativity: Anthony Minghella (*The English Patient*, *The Talented Mr Ripley*), Michel Ocelot (*Azur and Asmar*). He composed the original soundtrack of *That Should not be*.



1992- Rio de Janeiro-Earth Summit SEVERN CULLIS-SUZUKI' SPEECH

She is 12.



Video on You Tube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mAedbD2plwY&feature=related>

« Hello, I'm Severn Suzuki speaking for E.C.O. - The Environmental Children's Organisation. We are a group of twelve and thirteen-year-olds from Canada trying to make a difference: Vanessa Suttie, Morgan Geisler, Michelle Quigg and me. We raised all the money ourselves to come six thousand miles to tell you adults you must change your ways.

Coming here today, I have no hidden agenda. I am fighting for my future. Losing my future is not like losing an election or a few points on the stock market. I am here to speak for all generations to come. I am here to speak on behalf of the starving children around the world whose cries go unheard. I am here to speak for the countless animals dying across this planet because they have nowhere left to go. We cannot afford to be not heard. I am afraid to go out in the sun now because of the holes in the ozone. I am afraid to breathe the air because I don't know what chemicals are in it. I used to go fishing in Vancouver with my dad until just a few years ago we found the fish full of cancers. And now we hear about animals and plants going extinct every day -- vanishing forever. In my life, I have dreamt of seeing the great herds of wild animals, jungles and rainforests full of birds and butterflies, but now I wonder if they will even exist for my children to see.



J+B SÉQUENCES

Did you have to worry about these little things when you were my age? All this is happening before our eyes and yet we act as if we have all the time we want and all the solutions. I'm only a child and I don't have all the solutions, but I want you to realise, neither do you! You don't know how to fix the holes in our ozone layer. You don't know how to bring salmon back up a dead stream. You don't know how to bring back an animal now extinct. And you can't bring back forests that once grew where there is now desert. If you don't know how to fix it, please stop breaking it! Here, you may be delegates of your governments, business people, organisers, reporters or politicians - but really you are mothers and fathers, brothers and sister, aunts and uncles - and all of you are somebody's child. I'm only a child yet I know we are all part of a family, five billion strong, in fact, 30 million species strong and we all share the same air, water and soil -- borders and governments will never change that. I'm only a child yet I know we are all in this together and should act as one single world towards one single goal. In my anger, I am not blind, and in my fear, I am not afraid to tell the world how I feel.

In my country, we make so much waste, we buy and throw away, buy and throw away, and yet northern countries will not share with the needy. Even when we have more than enough, we are afraid to lose some of our wealth, afraid to share. In Canada, we live the privileged life, with plenty of food, water and shelter -- we have watches, bicycles, computers and television sets;

Two days ago here in Brazil, we were shocked when we spent some time with some children living on the streets. And this is what one child told us: "I wish I was rich and if I were, I would give all the street children food, clothes, medicine, shelter and love and affection." If a child on the street who has nothing, is willing to share, why are we who have everything still so greedy? I can't stop thinking that these children are my age, that it makes a tremendous difference where you are born, that I could be one of those children living in the Favelas of Rio; I could be a child starving in Somalia; a victim of war in the Middle East or a beggar in India. I'm only a child yet I know if all the money spent on war was spent on ending poverty and finding environmental answers, what a wonderful place this earth would be!

At school, even in kindergarten, you teach us to behave in the world. You teach us: not to fight with others, to work things out, to respect others, to clean up our mess, not to hurt other creatures to share - not be greedy.



J+B SÉQUENCES

Then why do you go out and do the things you tell us not to do? Do not forget why you're attending these conferences, who you're doing this for -- we are your own children. You are deciding what kind of world we will grow up in. Parents should be able to comfort their children by saying "everything's going to be alright", «we're doing the best we can" and "it's not the end of the world". But I don't think you can say that to us anymore. Are we even on your list of priorities?

My father always says "You are what you do, not what you say."

Well, what you do makes me cry at night. You grownups say you love us. I challenge you; please make your actions reflect your words.

Thank you for listening. »



Jean-Paul Jaud

Graduate of l'école Louis Lumière, with a passion for Kurosawa, Jean-Paul Jaud was born to direct. He got “trapped” by television by accident. He took part in the adventurous creation of CANAL +, channel for which he shot football matches and live sport events like he would have shot films. Jean-Paul Jaud used to shoot football like a documentary !

Since 1986, very upset by the catastrophe in Tchernobyl, USSR, he becomes aware of the ecological emergency. In 1990, he directs « les Quatre saisons du berger » (the Four seasons of the shepherd), a tribute to nature in the Pyrenean mountains. This film was awarded worldwide and was the starting point of the collection “Four seasons in France”.

In *That should not be* in 2008, a documentary that sold 300,000 tickets in France, the homage Jaud pays to nature takes to a much more militant turn. Pressed by the ecological emergency, convinced that cinema has a crucial role to play in the safeguard of our civilization and of our planet, he chose to clarify the solutions.



Note of intention



Jean-Paul Jaud

Cinema has a fundamental part to play in the safeguard of our planet. Half a century later, the situation has done nothing but getting worse. We are in the urgency. Today it is our health and that of our children that is threatened. It is the biodiversity which dies out each day a little more. It is still time to act.

One does not receive a documentary film the same way when they are sitting in a theatre or when in front of television. If the spectator is alone vis-à-vis images and sounds, he is in a position of sharing along with the other spectators. Moreover the beauty of nature, the intensity of a glance could never be as well restored as on a cinema display. It is for this imperative reason that I carried out “That should not be” for the theatres and I think that it is urgent to have it continued by “Severn, The Voice of our Children” this following episode being regularly wished by the spectators since the first projections of “That should not be” because they often feel powerless towards the reports and ask for solutions.

“Severn, The Voice of our Children” will be the continuation of “That should not be”, still shot in Barjac (in Gard, south of France), but also in Japan (in Fukuoka, Ikeda, Tokyo) and in Canada.

The awakening of the inhabitants of our planet to act for the health of their children is essential today, unrelentingly involving a change in the everyday life because concerns are multiple:

- Organic cultivable grounds are withdrawn by land and agricultural speculations for the profit of the large seedbearers, of the great agro-chemical groups
- Ancestral agricultural know-how is voluntarily ignored
- Seeds are patented
- Repetitive accidents by nuclear power or development of transgenic cultures are about to cause the worst environmental catastrophe ever happened on our planet: the long-term modification and the extinction of the living.

I see formidable energy today caused by the actions of citizens. It can reverse a mode of consumption whose influence on the environment is universally proven. Today, the European consumes as if they lived on two planets and the American on four planets. The South, little or not fed, dies of hunger. The North, badly fed, dies of diseases caused by an ominous polluting agribusiness industry at the origin of these two intolerable situations. In front of this relentless report, this new film will be of course a platform for the European physicians, scientists and environmental specialists who will simply explain

to us the problems but will especially show us that solutions are multiple and that the main actors of this change are all men in their acts and their daily decisions.

Directing a documentary film is a project but also an adventure that has to be prepared and which also reveals to us, during months, situations that are impossible for us to predict and often very strong. It will be the second time that my camera will film the inhabitants of Barjac, but I will also go to other places. I will keep on seeking attitudes, testimonies, actions which will be even more natural, more sincere and more intimate, which will again enable me through this film to touch the spectators in their heart of hearts. It is time to change our behaviours and that is a duty to us all.

Selective Filmography

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 2010 | « Severn, the voice of our children » |
| 2008 | « That Should not be » |
| 2001 | « The Four Seasons of Château d'Yquem » |
| 1999 | « Four Seasons for a Feast » |
| 1998 | « Football : from Dream to Reality » |
| 1997 | « Four Seasons between Marennes et Oléron » |
| 1992 | « The Four Seasons of a Shepherd » |

J+B SÉQUENCES

ARTISTIC & TECHNICAL CREW

GENRE:	Documentary
PRODUCTION:	J+B SÉQUENCES
DIRECTOR:	Jean-Paul Jaud
CHIEF OPERATOR:	Cyril Thépenier
SOUND:	Emmanuel Guionet
EDITOR:	Isabelle Szumny
PRODUCTION:	Béatrice Camurat Jaud
FORMAT:	35 mm-JPEG 2000
SOUND:	DOLBY SR - 5.1
DURATION:	120 minutes
INTERNATIONAL SALES:	WIDE Management





J+B SÉQUENCES PRESENTS « SEVERN, THE VOICE OF OUR CHILDREN » A
FILM BY JEAN-PAUL JAUD SCRIPT JEAN-PAUL JAUD CHIEF OPERATOR CYRIL
THÉPENIER SOUND EMMANUEL GUIONET EDITOR ISABELLE SZUMNY
PRODUCTION BÉATRICE CAMURAT JAUD WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF CANAL+
WITH THE SUPPORT OF LA RÉGION ILE-DE-FRANCE, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LE
CENTRE NATIONAL DU CINÉMA ET DE L'IMAGE ANIMÉE WITH THE FINANCIAL
SUPPORT OF LA RÉGION POITOU-CHARENTES BIOCOOP LA NEF
ASSOCIATION LA NEF WIDE MANAGEMENT JAPAN AIRLINES
GREENPEACE

