



PLANET IN FOCUS CO-PRESENTS

Eternal Mash

Director: Catherine Van Campen, Netherlands, 2007, 53 minutes

Master Dutch horticulturist Ruurd Walrecht sorted, protected, and preserved the seeds of rare vegetables on the brink of extinction. One day he stopped, packed his collection, and disappeared somewhere in Sweden, along with his knowledge of these endangered plant species. He has never been heard from again. Lamenting this loss is exceptional panoply of helpers who were part of an enterprise driven by his mission: Reid De Jong, a Dutch version of a rugged individualist; Peter ten Bookum, a former graphic designer living a nomadic existence in the wilderness; Boele Ytsma, still mourning his colleague's departure. Each is as unique as the extraordinary plants and vegetables they so lovingly nurture and cultivate. Beautifully rendered, this cinematic tour-de-force is a celebration of rare authenticity in our world.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

After studying History at the University of Amsterdam, Catherine Van Campen worked as a reporter for Dutch public radio. In 2003, she and three other directors became independent producers and founded Radiomakers Desmet. In 2004 she won First Prize for Best Scenario at the Boundless Sound Festival. Her documentary *Ethnic Boundaries Transcended* and radio drama *Of the Wolves* have both been nominated for the Prix Europe and Prix Italia. At the International Documentary Festival Amsterdam 2006, Van Campen won the prize for Best Scenario. *Eternal Mash* is her first documentary film.

SPECIAL EVENT PARTNERS



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PRECEDED BY:

Intestines of the Earth

Director: Olivier Barbier, France, 2006, 13 minutes

Our ecosystem and biodiversity relies heavily on the intestines of the world: worms. The use of pesticides is seriously endangering these vital creatures. Without their constant production and recycling of organic matter there will be severe repercussions on the planet. This surprising short film shows us this mechanism up close and personal.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Olivier is a recognized camera operator for major film companies in France. He has collaborated on numerous programs and documentaries. *Intestines of the Earth* is his directorial debut.

PLANET IN FOCUS produces Canada's largest international environmental film & video festival. We use creative environmentally themed films/videos by Canadian and international filmmakers as a catalyst for broad public awareness, discussion and appropriate action on the ecological and social health of the planet. Planet in Focus has earned global recognition as a leader in environmental awareness education.

Our 10th anniversary festival runs October 21-25, 2009. Call for submissions closes June 26, 2009.

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