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Life, the Universe and Almost Everything

Our world is full of mystery and wonder. What if we looked at it with the curiosity and openness of a child? If we looked beyond textbook answers to basic questions? If we were not afraid to question supposed certainties? And if we stopped worrying about seeming dumb?

What happens when scientists interpret such questions as an invitation to share what they know? When they convey their insights in a way that’s accessible to all, demystify the jargon and explain complex interconnections simply and clearly? When learning is fun and astonishing? Then we discover a world that’s surprisingly different from the one we think we know; science opens our eyes and leads us into the unknown. We ask questions – big and small – about Life, the Universe and Almost Everything. The responses from the world of science are smart, informative and entertaining.

What is the Secret of Light?

Without light, there would be no life and no breathable air. It’s a natural part of our reality, but the response to the simple question: What is light? could hardly be more complex. Scientists have been grappling with it for centuries, but light remains an enigma riddled with contradictions. In Chile, the European Space Agency ESA is building the world’s largest supertelescope to capture light from distant worlds. Researchers hope it’ll help them find answers to the big questions about our universe.

Will We Relocate to the Water?

The polar ice caps are melting; sea levels are rising. This threatens island nations but also countries such as Bangladesh and cities like New York and Shanghai. That’s why some of the world’s top architects are suggesting we build on water. They’re devising plans for floating cities close to shore. Advocates of the seasteading idea dream of villages on the world’s oceans; in Panama, designers are working on the first self-sufficient homes for the open sea. Are we headed towards a future of floating utopias?
How Much Does Life on Earth Weigh?
Yes, it's calculable: The mass of all life forms on Earth – humans, animals, bacteria, fungi, even viruses. Scientists have developed sophisticated ways to do the math. They arrived at the figure of one teraton as the dry weight of the biomass; that's a 1 with 12 zeros. The researchers say the weight of life appears to remain constant, but the composition of the biomass is undergoing rapid change. Human intervention is knocking our world off balance.

Can Algorithms Make Us Healthy?
Big Data is the motor of our age. Inevitably, it is also being applied to healthcare. After all, the human body harbors no end of data: in cells, in DNA, in proteins. In fact, the sheer volume of data is too large to be used for our health management. That's why scientists are working on algorithms aimed at helping us to better understand our bodies. The result could be a medical avatar for each and every person – an artificial-intelligence application that keeps a close eye on all our physical data and warns us when something's not right.

Can We Dig Our Way Through the Earth?
We have a pretty good understanding of the universe these days. But when it comes to the ground beneath our feet, the further down we try to look, the less we see. Ground exploration is expensive and technically challenging. But scientists have nevertheless managed to tease considerable insights from the stone and ice, the archive of our Earth. And now, researchers plan to go deeper than ever before: with the help of a powerful drilling vessel, they hope to penetrate the oceanic crust – and reach the Earth's mantle for the very first time.

What do Animals Talk About?
Although we humans speak many different languages, we have always found ways to communicate with each other. In the old days with dictionaries, nowadays with translation apps. What if there was an app to translate animal noises? Something to help us interpret the neighing of a horse, the trumpeting of an elephant and the mewing of a cat? Researchers say that the vocal language of animals is a window on their soul. If we can learn to decipher it, perhaps we might gain a deeper understanding of animals – and be better at protecting them too.
264951 007
Can Geoengineering Save the Climate?
CO₂ emissions are heating up the planet and stoking climate change. It is so advanced that it cannot be halted through changes in individual behavior. What possible solutions are there? The science of geoengineering is developing and testing processes that could help us to slow and alleviate the impact of global warming. But they too come with their own set of consequences. How can geoengineering help us and, if it is to be effective, what are the prerequisites?

264951 008
How is Migration Impacting Our World?
There are many factors driving migration. Some of these are likely to be exacerbated in the future. For example, technological developments that oust people from the workplace, as well as demographic changes and economic crises that force people to seek employment elsewhere. And then, of course, there is climate change. Global interconnectedness also contributes to migration. It can rock political systems and has an economic impact. We look beyond the myths about migration and ask: Whom does it really benefit?

264951 009
Could We Live on the Moon?
“That’s one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind,” said astronaut Neil Armstrong, who in 1969 became the first man to set foot on the Moon. Half a century later, plans are afoot, involving several nations, to launch new missions to the moon. The goal now is for people to spend longer periods of time there. The question is how to make use of resources found on the Moon. Scientists are exploring ideas about how life on the Moon might be made possible with the help of sunlight, ice water and lunar dust.

264951 010
A World Without Slime?
Many children are told that slime is disgusting – and continue to think that as adults. But scientists say slime has amazing qualities and is essential for life. Slime can slide and stick, close and open. It can trap and confuse pathogens. Slime has a particular physical state: it’s a non-Newtonian fluid. And therein lies its secret. Researchers are exploring the capabilities of the slippery substances that are found throughout the natural world.

264951 011
Is Cryptocurrency the Better Money?
Cryptocurrencies have been sending shockwaves through the financial sector since their introduction. They have made some people millionaires and bankrupted others. What’s the technology behind cryptos? Do Bitcoin & Co. have any advantages over traditional money? Why do they worry many economists? Red flags include extreme price fluctuations and the voracious energy consumption involved in crypto mining. Crypto advocates believe the new kind of money is here to stay. Whoever might be right, cryptocurrencies have triggered an intense debate about the nature of money and central banks.

264951 012
Are Computers Prejudiced?
Who gets the job? Who gets the loan? And who has to go to jail? Decisions on such questions are made by people, who can be swayed by bias. If these decisions were entrusted to artificial intelligence, would that guarantee neutrality? AI systems are already used in sensitive areas of this kind. But can we be sure that these systems are working without discrimination? Or are we expecting too much from computers? Could one even teach them moral conduct?
264951 013
Are We Getting Dumber and Dumber?
For a long time, humanity seemed to be getting smarter and smarter. But a few years ago, this upward trend stagnated. Neurobiologists suspect that stimulus overload and digitalization are having a negative impact on IQ scores. Ever-increasing screen time and the fact that we are almost always accessible is hurting our ability to concentrate.

264951 014
How Can We Feed Everyone?
Our highly efficient modern agricultural system can feed many people. But this efficiency has a downside: soil fertility and biodiversity are declining in many places, while pollution from fertilizers and pesticides is increasing. At the same time, climate change is affecting many crops. How can we significantly increase yields without placing an additional burden on our planet?

264951 015
Can We Glimpse the Afterlife?
Every year, thousands of people around the world report having had near-death experiences. Often, the presumed moment of dying is described as pleasant. Scientists are trying to find out what mechanisms underlie such an experience and whether these people have really had a glimpse of the afterlife.

264951 016
What Are the Powers of Thought?
How thoughts arise is still one of the greatest mysteries of science. What we do know is that thoughts have an enormous impact on our health: They can change blood sugar levels, help us lose weight and measurably rejuvenate us. With the help of neurotechnology, it should even be possible to control airplanes by the power of thought.

264951 017
Are You Psychopathic?
Psychopathy is a complex personality disorder – one we don’t really know that much about. One to two percent of the population is considered psychopathic. Only a few become the serial killers we see in the movies. Most psychopaths live inconspicuously. Psychological tests and imaging techniques can help identify psychopathy, but its causes are still unclear.

264951 018
Are We Smarter In Swarms?
Animals in swarms often make good decisions that allow them to negotiate a situation successfully. Large groups of people, on the other hand, seem to do the opposite. Think of mass panic or traffic jams. Can we learn to understand the rules and patterns of animal swarms and use them for our own benefit? One example is the logistics industry, where “swarm robots” transport goods and packages.

264951 019
What Causes Rogue Waves?
For centuries, monster waves were dismissed as sailors’ yarns. It wasn’t until 1995 that a laser was able to record a wave almost 26 meters high in the North Sea – proving that waves of this magnitude could exist. Statistically, monster waves are responsible for the loss of a ship on the world’s oceans nearly once every seven days. Unlike tsunamis, these waves are not yet well enough understood to develop any forecasting or warning systems.
Do We Like Playing Too Much?
Digital or analog, games are more popular now than ever before. We’ve been acquiring skills through play since the Stone Age. As early as 5,000 years ago, board games helped develop rules and order in groups. Today, companies and schools use games to improve processes. But where are the limits of learning through play? And where does addiction to gaming start?

Can We Copy Our Blood?
Two out of three people will need donated blood over the course of their lives. But blood is in short supply worldwide. If blood could be produced artificially, it would solve many problems. The current shortage, especially of rare blood types, would be eased. The risk of disease transmission would also decrease. However, the composition of blood is highly complex. That’s why scientists are first trying to reproduce individual components of blood – like platelets, which are important for blood clotting.

Could Humans Evolve Into a New Species?
No species on the planet is as evolved as humans. And yet, evolution is a continuous process – even for us. Whether it’s an extra blood vessel in the forearms, resistance to HIV, or lactose tolerance, evolutionary physicians are constantly observing changes. Could natural selection lead to a new superhuman in millions of years? And can technologies that intervene in our genes, such as the Crispr/Cas9 gene scissors, accelerate a development like this?

Are Cities Saving the World?
Our cities are growing fast: by 2050, more than 70% of the world’s population will live in urban areas. Due to this sheer mass of inhabitants, cities will play a major role in the race against climate change. Measures like building renovations or the creation of an infrastructure for electric vehicles impact many more people when implemented in an urban environment than in the countryside. But what will cities of the future need to look like, if they are going to be both sustainable and livable?

When Will the World End?
Throughout human history, the apocalypse has been predicted countless times. But so far, the end of the world has not come to pass. Can we better predict when the world might end, using scientific methods? There are some threats - like asteroids hitting the earth – that we are able to track, to a greater or lesser extent. But the greatest danger for the collapse of our world comes from ourselves: through wars, environmental destruction and climate change.
Most people want to live to an old age. But few want to be old. Because age means decay, limitations, disease. But does it have to be this way? Or can we grow very old and still retain good health?

“The first person who'll turn 150 years old has probably already been born,” say some scientists – and they should know. Because they're tackling the root cause of the problem: not age-related illness, but the aging process itself.

But what’s the secret of long life without aging biologically to the same extent? In telomeres, the ends of chromosomes, which are longer in Costa Rica centenarians than in other people? Is it enough to zap what are known as “zombie” cells, present in all of us? At least scientists are now able to measure our biological age regardless of our actual age in years. An invention by one of the gurus of longevity research Steve Horvath has made that possible.

Instead of: “How old are you?”, will we soon be asking: “What age does your biological clock show?” It’s not implausible. We’ve already got a first app, developed in Hong Kong, promising to “protect” us from aging. And there are young biohackers such as Nina Khera from Boston, who want everyone to benefit from such research. If it’s possible to delay human aging one day, how about reversing the process altogether? Greg Fahy is conducting research in California on the thymus gland. His initial study on humans showed that by taking certain medication, they shaved an average two-and-a-half years off their age.

The race to crack the human longevity code currently resembles a scientific goldrush, with researchers competing for fame and investors’ favor. It’s quite possible that scientists may soon begin to realize humanity’s age-old dream of eternal youth. They have already moved beyond the ongoing debate on the many social and economic implications of extending certain people’s lifespans.
Our planet and the life it sustains are the product of cosmic processes. The stars have always fueled humanity’s desire for knowledge. Space missions and sophisticated telescopes that reveal distant galaxies, black holes and exoplanets have enabled groundbreaking insights into fundamental phenomena. Physics, chemistry and biology have all benefited as a result. Many technological achievements can be traced back to developments in space travel. During the Cold War the Soviet Union and the United States sparred to claim milestones such as the first satellite in space and the first manned moon landing, but nowadays many teams work together on an international level. Key projects include research into earthlike celestial bodies, manned missions to Mars and the quest to find natural resources in space.

**264898 001**

*Apollo Astronauts – The Best of the Best*

Neil Armstrong was the first man to set foot on the moon in 1969. Only 11 other astronauts followed in those footsteps until the end of US moon missions in 1972. How were those fortunate few actually selected?  
**Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, LR**

**264898 002**

*The Centerpiece of the Apollo Missions – The Saturn V Rocket*

The centerpiece of the Apollo missions was the gigantic Saturn V rocket. Without it, there would have been no flights to the moon. Its development was masterminded by Wernher von Braun from Germany. He led a team of more than 200,000 scientists and engineers.  
**Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, LR**

**264898 003**

*Is There Life Beyond Earth? – Exploring Our Solar System*

Scientists are looking for evidence or even proof that there is or has been life elsewhere in the cosmos. They believe missions to Mars and to the moons of Jupiter and Saturn will help them in their quest.  
**Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, LR**

**264898 004**

*Our Link to the Stars – Cosmic Rays*

Life on Earth owes its existence to the stars. And scientists believe that these stars continue to exert an influence on us – through cosmic rays. Research facilities all over the world are exploring just how they affect us and our environment, as well as how they facilitated life in the vastness of the universe.  
**Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, LR**
264898 005
Living in Space – Fantasy or Imminent Reality?
Manned space flights are expensive and, despite all the technological advances, they are still dangerous. Could it nonetheless be the case that one day people will head off into space not just to conduct scientific research but to settle on other planets?
Documentary, 30 min., 2018, 4K; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, LR

264898 006
Aeronautics – What’s the Point?
Aeronautics may be very expensive, but it is proving very useful. For example, satellites monitor Earth's landmasses and oceans, making it possible to identify changes swiftly. They provide evidence that climate change is a reality and that it is caused by humans.
Documentary, 30 min., 2018, 4K; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, LR

264898 007
Space Junk – Long Ignored, Now a Major Threat
Debris has been accumulating in space for decades now – old satellites and bits of rockets, for example. All that junk represents a serious and growing risk to spacecraft and satellites. But the responsible agencies on Earth have been slow to face up to the problem, let alone develop ways to clean up space and mitigate the risk.
Documentary, 30 min., 2018, 4K; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, LR

264898 008
Rendezvous for Peace – The Apollo-Soyuz Test Project
It was a historic moment when in 1975 a Soviet and an American spaceship met in space. It was the first such encounter of manned spacecraft from the two nations. The commanders shook hands and became life-long friends. The project was also a milestone in the process of détente as the Cold War drew to a close. Rapprochement in space went more swiftly than on Earth.
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; VoD, LR

264898 009
Is There Life Beyond Earth? – Researching Exoplanets
Thanks to super-telescopes on Earth and in space, we now know that most stars in our galaxy have their own planet or planets. Thousands of these exoplanets have already been discovered; there are thought to be billions. Could there be life on any of them? Scientists are searching far beyond our solar system for a "second Earth".
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

264898 010
Microorganisms – Space Travel Stowaways
It's probably the least-known specialist field in space travel: Planetary Protection. Huge sums are spent on disinfecting spacecraft and equipment in line with stringent regulations. Were terrestrial microorganisms to hitch a ride on a vessel bound for space, they could perhaps contaminate celestial bodies such as Mars. Conversely, if microbes from alien worlds found their way to Earth in rock samples, who knows what that could lead to?
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

264898 011
Talking to Extraterrestrials
No man-made objects have ventured further into space than the two American Voyager space probes. Each is carrying a Golden Record – a gold-plated phonograph disc with images, sounds and messages of greeting from Earth. The intended recipients are extraterrestrials intelligent enough to understand them. We've also sent interstellar radio signals such as the "Arecibo message" into space. So far, the messages have been met with silence. But what would an answer mean to us?
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
264898 012
Where Will We Live? – The Colonization of Space
Overpopulation, catastrophic climate change or a basic urge to discover new places: There are many reasons why humans may one day seek to make their home far from Earth. This is no longer quite such a distant prospect, as plans are drawn up for colonies on the moon, on Mars, on asteroids and in orbit around the Earth. The challenges are huge. Where might we want to live and where might it really be possible?

Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

264898 013
Mission to Mars – Exploring the Red Planet
Missions to Mars are among the most ambitious space programs. Key considerations are the planet’s climate and geology. These factors will determine whether and how manned flights to Mars will be realized. Mars rovers are already sending back breathtaking images of the surface of the Red Planet. Scientists and engineers are working on special devices for probing deep into the ground to locate potential water deposits.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

264898 014
Astronauts in Space – The Challenges of Everyday Life
How do space journeys affect the human body, the senses and the mind? Out in space, astronauts are not only exposed to weightlessness, they’re also immersed in a purely technological environment. There are no natural sounds; there’s no wind, weather or day-and-night rhythm that regulates human metabolism. Although they’re undoubtedly passionate about their work, the space travelers certainly miss their lives back on Earth.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

264898 015
Titan – Saturn’s Earth-Like Satellite
It’s the largest moon to orbit Saturn and has fascinated astronomers for centuries: Titan is wrapped in a dense nitrogen-rich atmosphere containing hydrocarbons and traces of other organic compounds. It’s thought there are large quantities of liquid water beneath the moon’s icy surface. Of all the celestial bodies in our solar system, Titan is regarded as the most Earth-like and many probes have been sent there to find out more.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

264898 016
All Just Fake News? – Myths Surrounding the Moon Landing
NASA’s manned missions to the Moon were a momentous moment in the history of mankind. So much so that doubters subsequently emerged claiming the whole story was nothing but a big hoax. Their theories persist to this day, not least because several details of the photos and archive footage don’t quite add up. What’s really going on here?

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
Asteroids – A Future Source of Raw Materials?
For years now, engineers, entrepreneurs and investors have been excited by the idea of mining asteroids for raw materials – primarily because it appears to present a solution to the looming prospect of dwindling resources on Earth. But to what extent are such projects possible and reasonable with existing technology? What are their limitations? Are mines on asteroids really just science fiction?

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Headed for the Sun – Extreme Heat Exploration
For around 60 years now, researchers have been planning missions to our central star, the Sun. They’re hoping for a better understanding of physical and chemical phenomena such as solar winds and storms. These can exert a dramatic effect on Earth and it’s hoped that greater knowledge will improve our ability to predict them. Technology to make such missions possible has only been developed in recent years. The US space agency NASA and its European counterpart ESA have both dispatched probes able to withstand extremely high temperatures.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR

Giants Above the Clouds – Telescopes Open Up New Perspectives
Puzzling phenomena abound in the depths of space; many have only been revealed by looking through ultra-modern telescopes. To attain a view unobscured by clouds, the gigantic gadgets have been set up in high-elevation deserts or on mountaintops. This has enabled many discoveries that question our understanding of space, time and matter – and we’re finding out more all the time.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR

Distant Destinations – Challenges for Future Space Travel
In the decades to come, we will see the launch of unmanned missions to destinations far beyond our own solar system. This comes with its own particular set of challenges. If the conditions are right, the missions will outlive their developers. These probes will need to function with complete autonomy, as out in interstellar space, remote-controlled maneuvers are not possible. And new modes of propulsion will be needed, as conventional rocket boosters won’t be enough to provide the necessary thrust. The technological requirements for future space travel are being developed in many laboratories around the world.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR

Exoplanets – What Might We Find There?
It’s highly likely that in other solar systems there are planets with the conditions to sustain life. But what might organisms there look like? If they exist, how likely is it that they have developed in a similar way to life forms on Earth? Evidence suggests that a similar evolutionary process may well have taken place on distant celestial bodies under conditions comparable to those on Earth.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR
Pioneers in UFO Research
The only department of its kind in the world has existed for more than 40 years at the CNES, or National Center for Space Studies, in France. This little-known office is tasked with gathering, investigating and evaluating witness accounts of UFO sightings. Staff there developed special methods and a scientific basis for investigating these elusive phenomena. The study group became a model for other research institutions in their attempts to explain mysterious celestial manifestations.

Science and Tradition: Astronomy in Senegal
NASA’s Lucy mission is attempting to decipher the origins of our solar system. As part of the endeavor, the Senegalese astronomer Maram Kaire is providing crucial celestial observations from appropriate locations in his West African homeland. But taking part in the NASA mission is just one step on the path to his ultimate goal: the foundation of a Senegalese space agency. To gain the support of his compatriots and the government of this Muslim nation for his ambitious project, he’s also delving into the history of Islamic scientific study. Along the way, he has discovered something astonishing: centuries ago, indigenous explorers developed methods for the precise observation of the skies. Also, historic stone circles may be evidence of a connection to space that goes back thousands of years.

The Secret of the Icy Moons: Mission to the Jupiter System
In 2023, the European Space Agency or ESA launched the first probe bound for Jupiter and its icy moons: JUICE. JUICE will be finding out whether Ganymede, Callisto and Europa could support life. The explorer has 11 scientific instruments on board to gather data and capture images. It’s hoped that the data will provide insights into the atmospheres, surfaces and internal composition of these ocean-bearing moons, as well as creating the first highly detailed terrain model of the ice-covered moon Ganymede. JUICE can also analyze the layers beneath that ice. Some scientists believe that the Earth owes its existence to Jupiter’s immense gravitational power, which acted as a protective shield. Will the JUICE mission also help us to better assess the probability of life in outer space?
New Momentum for Trade Vessels

International shipping blasts close to a billion tonnes of carbon dioxide into the air every year, as well as toxic grime and dust. Some studies claim that air pollution from shipping is responsible for up to 50,000 premature deaths per year in Europe alone. Austrian captain Andreas Lackner has joined forces with naval architects to develop a low-emissions sail-powered freighter: a wind-propelled hybrid ship that will only have to switch on its engines when it’s dead calm out on the water.

The Secret of Healing Powers

A baby is born and survives that doctors think does not stand a chance. A paralyzed cellist returns to the concert stage, even though that is said to be out of the question after four brain operations. Both recoveries were only possible because doctors were prepared, alongside modern medicine, to put their faith in the power of self-healing.
The Mysteries of the Brain

The brain is the nerve center of the human body. It is the point where all information from the body and its environment is collected and processed into reactions and memories. Everything we think, say or do is controlled by the brain, as are processes that occur without our conscious input, such as understanding what we are seeing or hearing, feeling joy or fear, or recognizing danger. Researching the workings of the human brain is an even greater scientific challenge than decoding the human genome.

264762 008
Doping for the Brain
In a bid to enhance their performance in various activities, many people use prescription drugs developed to treat health problems. That holds not only for physical performance but also for mental functioning. But does ‘brain doping’ really help? What is certain is that it has negative side effects and can inflict long-term damage.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

264762 009
Invisible, But Highly Effective: Our Thoughts
We can use our thoughts to control devices and move artificial limbs. Our thoughts even have the power to heal disease. But what are thoughts? Mere brain waves, or something more? The latest neurological research shows that thoughts and feelings belong together, that they influence each other and cannot be understood independently of each other.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; LR

264762 010
Neuromarketing – Tracking Our Decisions
How does a person decide what to spend money on? Do commercials influence behavior? When do ads elicit the intended response, when are they ignored? Neuromarketing deploys psychological and neurological research to answer such questions. For the advertising industry and its clients, the answers are of huge significance and value in developing new strategies.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

264762 012
Puberty – The Brain’s State of Emergency
Puberty is often a challenging time in a family’s life; for both parents and the youngsters themselves. During this phase of growing up, boys and girls watch their bodies change and experience accompanying mood swings. They have to accept that their childhood is coming to an end and that they’re maturing into young men and women. Puberty begins in the head. This is because certain zones of the brain give the green light for an interplay of hormones that fundamentally alters the body.
Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
264762 013  
Criminality – Controlled by the Brain?  
Sometimes, after someone has broken the law, he or she might say, “I don't even know why I did it.” We tend to think that is just an excuse because we humans are in fact always in charge of our actions. But neurologists see it differently. Not only have they discovered that this assessment is way off the mark, they have also found out why some people commit serious crimes. These findings are forcing society and the judiciary to rethink how to call criminals to account and punish them; but also how to help them find their way back to leading a normal life again.  
**Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR**

264762 014  
Always On Duty – When the Brain Needs a Break  
Our information society – packed as it is with smartphones, tablets and computers – is making ever-greater demands on our brains. Time pressure and too much work can make people ill. Studies show that multi-tasking is ineffective and inefficient: The more tasks someone takes on, the slower he or she becomes and the more prone to making mistakes. Have we reached the point where our brain can no longer process the information coming its way? The answer is yes, say some neurologists, sociologists and IT experts. They recommend: Rebuild your attention span, take breaks, and insist on the right to turn off digital devices. Some go a step further and say: Rather than us adapting to the devices, it's the devices that should be adapted to our needs.  
**Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR**

264762 015  
Hypnosis – What’s Happening in the Brain?  
Doctors and psychologists are deploying hypnosis to try to alleviate pain or treat ailments where no organic cause can be determined. Studies have shown that a lower dose of anesthetics is required if a patient has been hypnotized before undergoing surgery. Thanks to modern imaging techniques and major advances in neurology, scientists are also now able to show how the human brain works under hypnosis.  
**Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR**

264762 016  
Man or Machine: Creating an Artificial Brain  
In recent decades cognitive research, neuroscience and imaging techniques have produced fundamental insights into the workings of the human brain. These demonstrate the processing of environmental stimuli, memories and action triggers. Can this knowledge be used to lend awareness to robots and machines?  
**Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR**

264762 017  
False Memories: How the Brain Deceives Us  
We often think we can remember particular events in exact detail. This makes it all the more astonishing how frequently our memories are far off the mark. Awareness, the formation of ideas and remembering and forgetting are highly efficient processes within the brain; but sometimes they produce illusions that appear to us to be very real.  
**Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR**

264762 018  
Hearing Voices in the Head  
People who hear internal voices are often viewed as sick, disturbed, abnormal or schizophrenic. But from a historical point of view, this is a frequently documented phenomenon with some well-known sufferers. Scientific research into the condition has yielded some surprising insights: brain scans show that those affected do actually perceive the internal voices as an auditory experience. Why does our psyche sometimes speak to us in this way? And at what point is the phenomenon an indication of some form of mental illness?  
**Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish VoD, IFE, LR**

264762 019  
Where am I? – Our Internal Navigation System  
With the help of what's known as proprioception, the sense of self-movement and body position, we orient ourselves and move, whether purposefully or without paying particular attention, and are aware of the current position of our limbs. It's a complex interplay between the brain, muscles and nerves; and it can be trained. Some people, for example dancers and aerobatic pilots, are even able to run through complex series of movements in their heads.  
**Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR**

264762 020  
Lucid Dreams – An Untapped Potential?  
Lucid dreamers are able – whether through natural ability or training – to influence their dreams and even direct their content and plot. Could this ability be harnessed to train certain skills during sleep – perhaps to compose a hit song? It's a question that's being explored by both researchers and laypeople.  
**Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR**
Mind and Movement – A Fruitful Relationship

In evolutionary terms, the human brain developed as the thinking organ of creatures that were hunting, in flight or on the move. Moreover, our brain has a very close relationship with the objects that our hands touch or shape. Our ideas concerning our surroundings, separating the important from the unimportant, derive to a great extent from such hands-on experiences. Nowadays, however, many people spend a lot of time sitting in front of a computer. Are we demanding too little of our brains?

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

The Evil Within – Are We Natural Born Killers?

Psychopaths can carry out gruesome acts without feeling sympathy or regret. There is evidence that genetic factors may have a role to play in such behavior. Recent research, however, has shown that many people with this predisposition never become violent. In other cases, the propensity for violence seems to lessen in middle-age and the capacity for remorse sets in. Some scientists say the capacity for lethal violence derives from our evolutionary past.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

The Power of Gentle Touch

Neuroscientific studies in recent years show that the human brain’s response to gentle touch is surprisingly strong. It releases important messenger chemicals that boost a sense of psychophysical well-being. Your brain can tell if you’re doing the touching or if someone else is. Touching ourselves, for example stroking an injured part of our body, can ease pain and even alleviate stress. The touch of others can strengthen social bonds and give us a sense of belonging. Crucial for these processes are special nerve cells with a hotline to the brain via the spinal cord neural circuit.

Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

IQ Test on Trial – The Diversity of Human Intelligence

For a long time, it was assumed that intelligence was measurable. But now, many researchers are taking a skeptical view of that claim. Today, a distinction is made between many different types of intelligence, such as those relating to language, abstractive ability and, say, interaction in team sports. Although it’s obvious that highly gifted people are set apart from the average, what’s not so clear is how intelligence is affected by genes, environmental stimuli, education or even nutrition. Interestingly, labeling someone “intelligent” or “less intelligent” can influence that indiv
The Quest for Knowledge

Humans have always had a thirst for knowledge – whether it be to improve their lives and circumstances or out of sheer curiosity and the urge to get to the bottom of things. Without scientific discoveries, humanity would not have evolved at such a rapid pace. Life as we know it today would be unthinkable without the knowledge we gain through science and scholarship. Innovations and new insights are integrated into our lives in ever quicker succession. We watch scientists, engineers and inventors as they look for ways to increase human knowledge. These fascinating films accompany them in their Quest for Knowledge.

264700 029
Climate Change – A Threat for Historic Buildings
Climate change is a threat not only to people, animals and plants, but also to monuments. By conducting a series of complex experiments, scientists hope to discover more about the effects of extreme temperature fluctuations and to find new ways to protect murals, valuable furniture and other historical objects.
Documentary, 30 min., 2012, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; LR

264700 031
Communication Without Words – The Language of Facial Expressions
A furrowed brow, a beaming smile, a twitch of the nose – our face is talking every second, even if we are not saying anything. It can produce more than 10,000 different expressions – with just eight facial muscles.
Documentary, 30 min., 2012, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; LR

264700 033
Don’t Panic! – How to Control Crowds of People
If crowds of people start to panic, this can quickly become dangerous. Scientists, engineers and rescue services are teaming up to find ways to evacuate public places as swiftly as possible in the event of an emergency.
Documentary, 30 min., 2012, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; LR

264700 044
The Silent Demise of a Species
Around a third of the world’s 5,000 species of amphibian are endangered. Scientists only have a limited understanding of why this might be the case. In Cameroon, two German tropical marine ecologists have spent years conducting research into around 100 indigenous species of frog.
Documentary, 30 min., 2013, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

264700 048
Storm Research – How Meteorologists are Working to Make Flying Safer
Extreme weather represents a risk to aeroplanes and those on board. Researchers are trying to gain a better understanding of storms in order to try to minimize the danger. German scientists have developed software that is able to predict storms at short notice. The next big step will be to convey these warnings directly to the cockpit via datalink.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; LR

264700 049
Eco-Friendly Chemistry
Almost 90 percent of all chemical industry products are derived from mineral oil. But what will happen when oil reserves run out? Since the early 1980s, the German chemist and entrepreneur Hermann Fischer has focused his attention on the potential of plants. His research has shown that the resins, oils, starches and pigments in plants can replace all petrochemical products.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
Behavioral biologists are taking a fresh look at how morality is a product of evolution? Are animals capable of moral behavior? And if this gives them advantages in the battle for survival - does this mean morality is a product of evolution?

How do kites choose their route over the Straits of Gibraltar? How do tiny butterflies manage to clear mountain altitudes of 3,000 meters and cover distances of more than 2,500 kilometers? In a bid to answer such questions, as many animals as possible are fitted out with small, extremely powerful transmitters by an international team of researchers.

Adrenaline is a multifaceted hormone. At times of great physical or psychological stress, it swiftly adjusts our cardiovascular system and metabolism to the new situation. But it can also be addictive. In the case of extreme sportsmen and women, some even put their lives on the line in pursuit of new heights of stimulation.

Scientists have observed changes in the behavior of goats close to the volcano Mount Etna in Italy several hours before an eruption. This would give the local authorities enough time to warn people living nearby. Can the behavior of other animals in other parts of the world serve as reliable predictor of dangers or even epidemics?

Animals have a natural instinct to identify dangers and warn others. They are fitted out with small, extremely powerful transmitters by an international team of researchers.

When the Earth’s magnetic field doesn’t just help us to navigate with a compass, it also protects our planet from space radiation and cosmic storms. But the field has weakened significantly in recent years. What are the potential consequences of this for humankind? Is there reason to fear a catastrophe?

Mount Merapi on the Indonesian island of Java is one of the most active and dangerous volcanoes in the world. It has claimed the lives of thousands of people over the past 100 years. The risk of a major new eruption with potentially global consequences is high. Researchers are trying to understand Merapi’s dynamic system.

Zoos are often viewed as “animal prisons”, even though these days most zoo animals are born in captivity and many zoos take great care to ensure the enclosures are spacious and emulate natural habitats as far as possible. The World Association of Zoos and Aquariums works to ensure that nature conservation and biodiversity are a priority, and that zoos keep the public informed and aware of these issues. Are modern-day zoos managing to meet these challenges?

Modern life would be inconceivable without rare earth metals. These are an essential component of high-tech products such as smartphones and hybrid cars. But mining these 17 elements is usually both expensive and damaging to the environment. Efforts are underway to find greener ways to produce the problematic metals, to recycle them intelligently and to replace them altogether.

Animals tend to eat particular plants when they are ill. In the Democratic Republic of Congo, a German biologist has analyzed what bonobos choose to eat. Her findings are of interest to the pharmaceuticals industry, as these plants could yield substances with which to create new drugs. But the bonobos are a species under threat, and what we can learn from them might soon be lost forever.

Black holes are not only fascinating to sci-fi writers, but also beguiling to scientists. They are mysterious and they cannot be observed directly. Increasingly sophisticated technology is enabling astronomers to explore uncharted areas of space, giving them new and profound insights into the universe and its history.
The Hidden World of Fascia
For a long while, fasciae were considered insignificant – but today we know that the soft connective tissue encases the parts of the human body like a fine mesh, interpenetrating and surrounding all internal organs, even veins and the brain. It forms a whole-body network that helps stabilize the body and keep it upright. Interest in the role of fasciae in a range of ailments is growing. They are also central to some new approaches to medical therapy.

Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Microplastics in the Ocean
Most plastics never disintegrate, but are simply broken down into increasingly smaller particles until they are invisible to the naked eye. In the oceans, microplastics present a particular problem: What happens to them? Are they eaten by marine organisms? Are they buried beneath the seabed? And what are the effects if they enter the food chain?

Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Measuring Emotion
Scientists are working on technology to analyze and interpret facial expressions, language and gestures. They are developing avatars that can register emotions in humans and respond “sensitively”. “Empathetic” robots already serve as teachers’ aids. Data goggles convey their wearer’s feelings in real time. What impact will such technologies have?

Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Mining on the Ocean Floor
On the floor of the Pacific Ocean, at a depth of four kilometers, there are vast reserves of manganese nodules. These contain many rare metals used in the manufacture of electronic devices. There are fears that extracting these metals could disrupt natural marine rhythms and threaten an ecosystem that we still don’t really understand. Scientists are hoping that their research will ease the impact of deep-sea mining on the environment.

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Leaving Nothing to Chance?
Researchers base a whole variety of prognoses on the tide of data generated by advancing digitalisation. Predictive analytics uses data mining to create algorithms to predict trends in society and individual preferences. Such algorithms are of great interest both to the business world and to governments and their intelligence agencies.

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

The Decline of Alpine Glaciers
Glaciers are places where the effects of climate change can be seen and measured on a daily basis. The retreat of glaciers in the Alps has been far more rapid than scientists had predicted. This is due to the exacerbation of global warming by local factors. The changes not only impact the Alpine ecosystem. Permafrost holds rocks and scree in place. If it melts, the results could be devastating.

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; LR
264700 076
**The Secrets of the Molnár János Cave**
There’s an extraordinary and little-known subterranean realm in the heart of the Hungarian capital Budapest – a system of water-filled caves known as the Molnár János Cave, which extends over several kilometers. Only experienced divers are allowed to enter. The cave is prized by scientists in several fields because it contains fossils, rare and even unique species of flora and fauna, as well as intriguing mineral deposits. The cave provides an insight into the region’s geological past and poses interesting questions about evolution.
*Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR*

264700 077
**Blood in Short Supply**
Blood is the elixir of human life and an increasingly scarce commodity. This is because blood donation rates are down despite an increase in need. Researchers and doctors are searching for solutions. One approach is to reduce the number of transfusions. Another, to glean a substitute for human blood: from lugworms, for example, or stem cells.
*Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR*

264700 078
**Insects: Superstars of Bionics**
There are more than a million known species of insect in the world. Sometimes, their talents are akin to superpowers. Bionics is a science that examines ways to apply biological structures and processes to modern technology: for example, you’ve never seen an ant traffic jam. And the Asian harlequin beetle has the most efficient immune system in the world. Two examples of how insects can help us to solve contemporary problems.
*Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR*

264700 079
**Bacteria: Life on the Seabed**
2,000 meters below sea level it’s dark, water pressure is extremely high and undersea springs spew boiling hot water containing toxic substances. These hostile conditions do not deter bacteria, which flourish and form the basis for rich ecosystems with innumerable higher organisms. What is the relationship between these life forms? And what conclusions can be drawn concerning the significance of bacteria for human existence?
*Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR*

264700 080
**The Amazing World of Spiders**
Spiders are everywhere we go, they’re around us all the time as we go about our daily lives, but they’re often not very popular with their human cohabitants. Maybe that’s why we haven’t wanted to know all their secrets. For example, few people are aware that some spiders can fly, some can live underwater, while others spit or dance. And so far, no one has managed to invent a technical material with the same incredible qualities as spider silk.
*Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR*

264700 081
**Intoxicated Animals**
Humans aren’t the only consumers of alcohol. Many animals also regularly indulge, and even seem to sometimes enjoy the effects. But can they also get addicted? And does alcohol have the same effect on everybody and everything? Researchers from a variety of fields have been observing alcohol consumption in animals in a bid to gain new insights into the possible prevention and treatment of alcoholism in humans.
*Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR*
264700 082
The Dangers of the Acid Ocean
The oceans of the world are absorbing more and more carbon dioxide, making them increasingly acidic. What impact is this having on marine life? Will it be able to adapt to this global change? Or will the creatures of the seas gradually disappear? Time may be running short, so marine biologists are urgently searching for ways to ensure their continued existence.
Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR

264700 083
Soil – Bursting with Life
Science today knows more about the moon than the earth beneath our feet. Research has only been conducted on a tiny fraction of the innumerable life forms that populate the upper layers of our soil. It’s estimated that 70 percent of still unidentified species live in the earth. Earth is itself a living structure, formed by a vast number of organisms and complex interactions. Not only do animals, plants, fungi, bacteria and viruses live in the earth – they also create it.
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR

264700 084
Life Deep Below the Ground
The soil’s uppermost layers are the most biologically active. Until recently, scientists assumed that extreme conditions in deeper layers made the existence of life improbable. But this does not appear to be the case. New research shows that life forms can also be found deep below the surface of the Earth – and that their interaction with rock is more complex than previously thought.
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

264700 085
Octopuses – Masterminds of the Seas
Some of them have nine brains and three hearts. They have eight legs and a sharp beak, but no bones. Their eyes can make up nearly a quarter of their body weight. And they are able to change the texture and color of their skin. Quite apart from their astonishing physical qualities, there is more: octopuses are among the most intelligent creatures on the planet. We know this from numerous scientific tests performed on a variety of octopus species.
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

264700 086
Shipwrecks – Ticking Time Bombs From World War II
It’s thought that 6,300 Second World War shipwrecks lie off the coastlines of the world. They’ve been corroding in the water for more than 75 years, all the while turning into ticking time bombs: scientists believe they contain up to 15 million tons of toxic oil. They pose a huge threat to beaches around the former wartime sites, endangering both biodiversity and tourism. It would be technically possible to pump out the oil – but difficult and expensive. The problem is mostly ignored, even though many of the sunken ships are already leaking oil. Experts warn that the wrecks are entering a critical phase: after corroding for so long in salty water, the slightest impact could be enough to breach their steel hulls.
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

264700 087
Science v. the Zika Virus
The Zika virus was first isolated in 1947 in monkeys in Uganda. The first human infections were identified there too, then a few more in Africa and southeast Asia. Only 14 cases in humans were recorded before 2007. So it came as a shock when an outbreak of the virus spread through the Americas, a number of Pacific islands and southeast Asia in 2015. Zika virus disease is generally mild, but an infection during pregnancy can cause serious birth defects. Rarely, it can cause Guillain-Barré syndrome, a neurological disease. Researchers are trying to establish what led to the sudden epidemic and how the virus can cause such damage.
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

264700 088
Plants: Can They Think and Feel?
A small but growing number of scientists have introduced the world to a new field in recent years: the neurobiology of plants. Their research challenges the traditional boundaries between the plant and animal kingdoms. They say that plants are able to perceive their environment and react to it. Electrical and chemical signaling appear to play important roles, resembling signal processing in animals. So are plants able to think and feel?
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR
Testosterone: The Aggression Hormone
Testosterone is the primary male sex hormone. It is often said that under its influence, men are driven by instinct and aggression. But recent studies tell a different story, finding that testosterone enables men to act strategically and promotes social behavior – even if that is aimed at boosting their own status. Conversely, the hormone is also influenced by social status and individual personality. The basic equation “testosterone equals aggression equals power” simply doesn’t add up.

Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Mona Lisa: The Woman Behind the Portrait
It may be the most famous painting in the world but it remains shrouded in mystery. The portrait by Leonardo da Vinci, exhibited in the Louvre in Paris, depicts a woman with an enigmatic smile and a captivating gaze. It is generally thought that the subject is Lisa del Giocondo, the wife of a wealthy Florentine merchant. But if so, why did the painting not end up in the possession of the merchant? Could it be that the Mona Lisa depicts someone else?

Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

The Healing Power of Cuddles: Why Touch is Healthy
Humans are social beings and need the company of other humans. Physical contact with other members of the species is also known to be very important. But some scientists go one step further: they say we need to be touched and even cuddled to stay healthy. There is a wealth of evidence to show that people who spend long periods in physical and mental isolation are more likely to succumb to illness. After all, touch is the first sense we acquire and the last to diminish when we age.

Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Expedition to the Unknown: Isla Madre de Dios
The uninhabited Isla Madre de Dios is an island of about 1,000 km² in the Chilean part of Patagonia. To this day, the island is truly terra incognita and one of the Earth’s most isolated places. Efforts to secure UNESCO’s recognition of the island as a World Natural Heritage Site have been underway since 2016. We accompany speleologists, geologists, botanists, biologists and divers on a challenging scientific research expedition to the island.

Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Tsunamis in Lakes
Tsunamis don’t just emerge in seas but also in lakes, especially in mountainous areas. For example, the Swiss city of Geneva was devastated by a tsunami back in the year 563. Geological studies show the potential for a similar catastrophe in the very same location. Scientists from Switzerland and Germany use earthquake simulators and 3D models to assess the scale of the danger and plan the emergency response.

Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR
The Wonder of Love – Let’s Get Chemical
Love is more than just a feeling. Like eating and drinking, it’s an instinct that’s essential for survival and the result of complex biochemical processes. Like animals, human beings seek out their partners through scent. When a mother sees and touches her baby, her brain releases the hormone oxytocin, which in turn promotes bonding. Love makes social coexistence possible – for humans and animals. Because love is first and foremost biochemistry, it can affect the body of each and every individual. We really can get “lovesick”.

Rising Waters: Getting the Predictions Right
As ice caps melt and global sea levels rise, we need to work out where, how and when the impact of these changes will be felt. Political decisions with dramatic implications for society and ultimately the survival of millions of people in coastal regions depend on such prognoses. This places a huge responsibility on researchers as they interpret complex, dynamic data. Our ability to deal with the consequences of climate change relies on the accuracy of their forecasts. How do they deal with this pressure? And how much time do they have left to find solutions?

The Power of Empathy
The ability to empathize with others distinguishes humans as social beings. Neuroscientists have discovered that this ability has three dimensions: Recognizing the feelings of others, understanding the reasons for those feelings and putting oneself in the other’s place. Only the first dimension is fundamental and innate, they argue. The reading of emotions and the understanding of intentions enable us to help others, but also to manipulate them. In this regard, we are shaped by our education and sense of morality: The choice is ours.

Continental Shelf Research: Selling Out for Political Gain
The oceans are a habitat for fauna and flora and are crisscrossed by shipping routes. In them and beneath them lie huge amounts of valuable natural resources. Most belong to all of us and their utilization is regulated by international law. But since the 1990s, the law stipulates that the right of a coastal nation to explore and exploit the sea’s natural resources depends on the size of its continental shelf. Now, many countries are going all out to maximize their share of seas. They commission geologists, cartographers and biologists to determine the size of their continental shelf in an opaque process with no channels for appeal.

The Gene-Editing Revolution
Since 2012, scientists have been editing DNA using a method known as CRISPR Cas9 – and applying it with increasing frequency. As ever, there are two sides to the coin. On the one hand, the method could lead to medical breakthroughs such as the eradication of Malaria and HIV, or a cure for genetic diseases. On the other, somewhere down the line it could facilitate the production of “programmed” animals or even humans. A development with unforeseen economic and ethical consequences.
The Secret Power of Scents

We're constantly surrounded by scents of all different kinds. But we know relatively little about how they affect us. We know that smells influence our emotions. They can also heal – and not just when we breathe them in. This is because the nose isn't our only olfactory receptor. Even cancer cells react to particular smells. And researchers believe that essential oils can stem bacterial growth.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

The Anthropocene

Humans have inflicted such dramatic and rapid change on the Earth since the mid-20th century that some leading scientists are now describing the current geological epoch as the Anthropocene. Humankind’s devastating interference in the cycles of nature is transforming the world. The Anthropocene impacts our planet in a number of ways including global warming and an accelerated rate of species extinction. If we are to conserve the basis of our existence, we must try to reverse the consequences of our own activities. What role can science play in the process?

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

The Roots of Evil

Why do some people become murderers? Where does the capacity for evil come from? Current research believes it has to do with genes, the environment and the situation of the individual. Findings show that evil may stem from an interplay of these three factors. It is almost impossible to foresee the explosive power of this combination. Years of research carried out on mass murderers, terrorists and regular criminals can help in the timely recognition of potential danger. But just how much use is being made of these scientific insights?

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

The Science Behind the Lie

Lying is a highly sophisticated accomplishment of the mind that can be observed in both humans and animals. Researchers have determined that everyone lies every single day. But when does a lie cross the line into dangerous territory? And how do we recognize lies? The cognitive capacity to lie also includes the ability to unmask liars. Researchers are claiming it is now possible to measure lies. Is there be a formula for reliably detecting a liar?

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
Isolation: Endurance Test for Body and Mind
Humans are social beings and need interpersonal contact to thrive. But what happens when they have to isolate themselves, for example during the coronavirus pandemic or in remote places? For some time now researchers have been studying the impact of solitary confinement on prison inmates. Expeditions to polar regions or space missions also provide valuable information on the effect of isolation on the human psyche and immune system. Meanwhile, science has gained insights into how people subjected to isolation can withstand this endurance test.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Sand: A Dwindling Resource
Sand is the main component of concrete and the second most important natural resource after oil and natural gas. And although it appears to be omnipresent, like fossil fuels it is not an unlimited resource. This is because only a small proportion of the sand on the Earth is useful to us. In recent years, demand has grown so steeply in many industrial sectors that exploitation of sand deposits is having a devastating impact. Scientists are working on new concepts to protect and save this valuable resource, as well as developing ideas for substitute products.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

Killer Conversations – Do Orcas Have Language?
Killer whales, or orcas, communicate constantly with one another, and each family has its own dialect. Are these sounds merely a crude communication system? Or are there recurring patterns indicative of a real language shared by these highly intelligent marine mammals? For the first time, a team of scientists is using machine learning to explore these questions. For three years, the researchers observed orcas in the Canadian Pacific and trained algorithms to identify links between the animals' sounds and their behavior.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Rewilding – Back to Nature
Species extinction caused by humans has grave consequences for nature on the planet as a whole. A possible response to this is the concept of rewilding: the repopulation of species that serve a key function in the health of an ecosystem. To do this, scientists and conservationists are using state-of-the-art technology – and initial successes are encouraging: In Yellowstone National Park in the United States the reintroduction of wolves has helped to restore a healthy equilibrium. The ecosystem of Romanian forests is in recovery thanks to a project returning European bison to the region. And mangrove replanting in Costa Rica is bringing back species that had already disappeared from the coastal wetlands.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Tsunami – Danger from the Deep
Tsunamis are among the most lethal natural phenomena on Earth. They're caused by earthquakes and seaquakes, volcanic eruptions and landslides. This means they could potentially affect almost all the world's regions with devastating consequences. Densely populated coastal regions are particularly at risk. The monster waves can wipe out human life in a matter of minutes and lay waste to entire regions. Ever since the catastrophe in Indonesia in 2004 and in Fukushima, Japan in 2011, researchers have been working tirelessly to improve early-warning systems.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR
Viruses Inside Us
Pathogenic viruses are responsible for some of the most devastating infectious diseases. And not just since the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic: Spanish Flu, Ebola and AIDS are just a few of the epidemics caused by viruses. Many arose when humans encroached on the habitats of animals that are the viruses’ natural hosts. But there's much more linking people and viruses. Around half of our DNA is of viral origin. These genes are key components of our immune and digestive systems. Certain viruses can even cure illnesses by attacking bacteria. In the battle against multi-resistant germs, some may even be able to replace antibiotics.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

The Wonders of Walking
Walking is a natural but highly complex process for the human body to master. Researchers are now pointing to the huge benefits of a brisk walk - not just for the muscles and joints but also for the heart and the brain. The movement increases oxygen turnover in the body and promotes the creation of new brain cells. And that's not all: a daily stroll can even protect us from illness. Walking gets the body into gear, boosts our brain power and lifts our mood. Scientists warn that couch potatoes have shorter lives.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

More Ape, Less Human?
Just how closely related are apes and humans? Some of the latest insights from behavioral research show that many traits thought to be unique to humans, such as our ability to recognize ourselves, are also evident in great apes. These animals cooperate and fight with each other, comfort and deceive each other, demonstrate empathy and a readiness to reconcile. So, are we more animal than we think - or are great apes more human? Could it be the case that we don't have a monopoly on morality, culture and religion?

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Forensics: Science Hot on the Heels of Crime
Botanists, entomologists, soil researchers and many other scientists hunt criminals from the lab. Forensic science is now an indispensable component of detective work. And its methods are becoming ever more sophisticated: for example, locating invisible blood traces or gleaning detailed information from the forest floor. Pollen analysis allows forensic scientists to look back centuries, as pollen grains are virtually indestructible and can lead to perpetrators long after the crime has been committed. Forensic scientists often supply crucial evidence in the investigation of serious crimes.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
Go Out and Play!
Play is deeply rooted in the behavior of humans and many species of animal. It comes as naturally to us as sleeping and dreaming. Some scientists even talk of a play instinct that helps drive evolutionary development. As children play outdoors, they discover what their bodies are capable of. In play, they also practice how to get along with others, learn from their mistakes and recognize potential dangers around them. Play teaches us to manage risks, while encouraging creativity and ultimately happiness. The tougher the challenges we face when we play, the greater the benefits for mind and body.
Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Turbo Evolution: Urban Flora and Fauna
If they are to survive, animals and plants must adapt to life in our increasingly urbanized world, for example by changing their eating habits or mating behavior. Nature appears to be astonishingly adept at harnessing apparently hostile factors such as environmental and light pollution, noise, garbage and the dense built environment as a motor for change. Many of these adaptations are reflected in changes to animal and plant DNA. In this turbo-charged evolution, genetic material changes over just a few decades instead of millennia. What does this mean for the relationship between humans and nature?
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

mRNA Technology – Medicine’s New Miracle Weapon?
The coronavirus crisis was a turning point in the development of messenger RNA technology. For a long time, it didn’t seem suited to therapeutic use, until it was successfully used as the basis for vaccines against Covid-19. mRNA technology has been undergoing rapid development ever since, bringing scientists working in the field closer to their goals, including the treatment of previously incurable heart and tumor diseases. More than 150 mRNA-based therapies and vaccines are in development worldwide. We explore the technology’s great potential and consider some of the risks.
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Bacteria: Both Friend and Foe
Bacteria get a bad rap. People associate them with disease and death. But humans carry just as many microbes in and on them as cells in their body. And many of the bacteria play an important role in maintaining health. Scientists are identifying “good” and “bad” bacteria and seeking to utilize these insights in medicine and industry. For example, in the development of medicines and cleaning agents that don’t kill all bacteria but intervene in a regulatory fashion to create the right mix.
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR

Geoengineering: Can Technology Save the Climate?
If we can’t halt climate change, should we try to intervene in the climate system to mitigate the impact of our harmful emissions? That’s what geoengineering aims to do. It’s an approach that’s gaining traction in climate research. One aspect is to develop technologies to extract and store CO2 from the air. Another is to find ways to reflect sunlight back into space in order to reduce global warming. As scientists experiment with such possible solutions, are we simply being distracted from the core issue: the need to slash greenhouse gas emissions? And should we mess with a system that we don’t fully understand?
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Seaweed: The Oceans’ Brown Gold
Seaweed is a source of iodine, which is an antiseptic. But that is not all: Scientists have discovered that large algae, which often grow in extensive underwater forests, have a whole range of other qualities. They’re indispensable for biodiversity and play a key role in the absorption of carbon dioxide and thus in climate protection. Research teams from France and Chile are working together to explore the scientific and economic potential of seaweed forests off the coasts of the two countries. Key goals are to promote seaweed farming and protect seaweed forests. They are a resource under threat: They will disappear if global warming continues at its current rate.
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
Our Organs: Development in Water
The organs of the human body developed over hundreds of millions of years. All vertebrates originated in water, and the anatomy of fish illustrates the start of the human evolutionary story. For example, fish and humans have the same organs for seeing, feeling and reproduction. But we also share spines and skulls that evolved around 500 million years ago. In spite of continual changes, these features demonstrate our ancestral links with creatures that barely resemble us – the fish-like lamprey, for example.

Our Organs: Development on Land
Each human organ evolved in chronological sequence and has an ancient genetic signature. With the conquest of land as a habitat, organs emerged that enabled humans to hear, think and grasp. For example, our ability to hear is due to the act of chewing. This is because the mammalian middle ear evolved from the jaw joint of their reptile-like ancestors. But evolutionary regressions can also be observed in humans: for example, our hands are probably more primitive than those of our primate relatives.

Explosives – A Science in Themselves
Few inventions have shaped human history quite as much as explosives. Nowadays, these ‘energetic materials’ are used in so many non-military contexts that our modern lives would be unthinkable without them. Explosives release powerful forces in millionths of a second, and have a multitude of applications. But they’re also dangerous. Engineering knowhow and technical skill are crucial, when it comes to applications like the demolition of old buildings, airbag development in the car industry, or the extraction of materials in quarries. Science also utilizes explosives to create new substances and nanoparticles with the potential to revolutionize our lives.

Undesirable Neighbors – Urban Rats
Historically, humans have viewed rats as the carriers of disease and as competitors for food, and to this day rats are feared and detested. Humans have been trying to control rat populations for centuries, particularly in cities – ultimately, in vain. That’s why scientists are now addressing fundamental questions about the human-rat relationship, tackling some of the prejudices held by humans along the way. How does a population’s social situation and urban infrastructure relate to the number of rats? Are there really more rats than people in cities and are rats actually as dangerous as we think? In a series of global projects, researchers are developing sustainable methods and technologies aimed at forging a peaceful coexistence between humans and their rodent neighbors.

The Multi-Tasking Myth
Always reachable, constantly achieving multiple things at the same time: This describes a common experience of the digital world. Companies perceive this “multi-tasking capability” as an important suitability criterion. But is it good for people and effective for business? Is there a limit to what our brain, body and soul can bear? What’s the impact of this perpetual tide of information confronting us in the modern age? Questions like these are currently being addressed by researchers in a range in disciplines such as neuroscience, kinesiology, occupational psychology and sociology. After all, our brain isn’t designed to undertake several complex tasks simultaneously. And trying to do this results in stress that can potentially inflict measurable harm.
Know it!

Know it! is DW Transtel’s magazine all about knowledge. Do you know what factors influence climate change or what impact it has on humanity? Are you aware of the questions currently being researched by scientists? How much do you know about energy and the environment? Do you keep track of health and medical advances? And did you know...

All over the world, scientists are working to increase our knowledge. Engineers develop practical applications for new discoveries; their research makes it possible for people to embrace the future. Those equipped with greater knowledge have a better chance of solving problems, improving living conditions and curing diseases, and, ultimately, of securing the survival of humanity as a whole.

Know it! brings you magazine-length reports packed full of information on science, technology and everyday phenomena. Know it! lets you in on the latest developments and discoveries from all over the world. If you’re curious about the world around you, just tune in and Know it!

**SAMPLE EPISODE 30 MINUTE VERSION**

**The Microbiology of Geysers**

On the geologically active island of Iceland are many geysers that regularly spray boiling water from the depths of the earth. Despite the extremely high temperatures, they’re a biotope for highly specialized microbes that attract a lot of interest from biotechnologists.

**Telescopic Turbines for Offshore Windfarms**

Setting up wind turbines at sea is complex and expensive. To make the process simpler and cheaper, engineers in Spain have now developed a design that can be assembled on land, towed out to the site, and raised to its final height faster and cheaper.

**Strategies for Cutting Food Waste**

In industrialized nations, a huge amount of fresh produce is either processed into animal feed or ends up in landfills. This despite the fact that eating it would cause us no harm whatsoever. In The Netherlands, companies and supermarkets are coming up with inventive ways to reduce the amount of food that’s thrown away.

**Tracking Emissions in Shipping**

Gigantic freighters often emit vast amounts of the toxic gas sulfur dioxide. Many countries are now tightening restrictions to improve air quality, and researchers are having to come up with technology that can test and track emissions from the shipping industry.

**Smart Farming: Happier Animals, Bigger Olive Crops**

Future farmers will have to cope with issues like water scarcity, but also animal welfare, as necessity and ethics alter how we fulfill human needs. Research is starting to provide many computer- and sensor-based solutions to some of the field’s most intractable problems.

**Recovery from Polytrauma**

People who survive bad accidents often arrive at the emergency room with a range of serious injuries. Even so, some victims are able to bounce back astonishingly quickly. Along with the right therapies, having the right attitude plays a crucial role.

**Regenerating Degraded Coastal Environments**

Many coastal regions are heavily contaminated by the side products of industrialization. Even after factories close, some coastlines continue to bear the marks of destruction for decades. What are the best ways to re-establish a thriving marine biotope?

**The Future of Architectural Design**

Innovations like sensor technology and IT are changing the face of the structures we design. New discoveries in the material sciences are already dramatically influencing the options for the next generation of young architects.
EinSteinchen

E=mc² – the most famous formula in the world. Everyone knows it, but very few know what it actually means. This is true of most of Albert Einstein's revelations. You don’t have to be a genius in physics to understand our program. Whether it’s the photoelectric effect or the relativity of time, the virtual figure EinSteinchen will help you understand the ideas behind Einstein's work in a simple and straightforward fashion. In twelve 90-second, elaborately animated clips, the virtual whiz explains the great scientist's most important discoveries. EinSteinchen speaks directly to viewers, and makes them want to learn more about the basic principles inherent in Einstein's theories. He explains difficult concepts using amusing and fascinating examples that anyone can understand.

124666 001
Absolute and Relative
It's all a question of perspective! EinSteinchen provides a simple example revealing how size – depending on your point of reference – is actually relative.

124666 002
E=mc²
Einstein’s famous formula! EinSteinchen explains that energy can turn into mass, while mass can likewise be converted into energy. This second process, for example, constantly occurs in our sun.

124666 003
The Discovery of Slowness
What is the ‘relativity of time’? EinSteinchen shows how time changes when traveling through space. Of course, speed also plays a role. An external observer watching a clock on a spacecraft that was accelerating through space could see time ‘slow down’ as the ship gained speed.

124666 004
As Fast as Light
EinSteinchen explains that light always moves at the same speed, and why nothing can be faster than light.

124666 005
Glowing Atoms – Stimulated Emissions
How does a laser apparatus create its special, highly concentrated beam of light? EinSteinchen explains the role that ‘excited’ atoms play in the process.

124666 006
The Supermolecule – Bose-Einstein Condensation
When EinSteinchen drops the temperature of molecules close to absolute zero, they change state and begin behaving like a single ‘wave’.

124666 007
The Spooky Long-Distance Effect
EinSteinchen takes a look at a paradox. Two particles can continue to be ‘entangled’ with each other even if they’re far apart in space.

124666 008
Bent Space
EinSteinchen shows how incredibly massive objects exerting enormous gravity actually bend space, and how even light follows the curve.

124666 009
Dancing Particles
Molecules are in constant motion. Even inanimate particles can move in seemingly unpredictable ways. EinSteinchen explains how the forces that play a role in interactions between molecules can be defined by formulas.

124666 010
Electricity from Light
Light can exhibit the characteristics of either a particle or an electromagnetic wave. That’s why light energy can be converted into electrical energy. EinSteinchen shows us how.

124666 011
The Invisible Force
EinSteinchen reveals how the forces of gravity exerted by stars and planets keep everything in the universe in motion.

124666 012
Wormholes
Theoretically, two black holes could distort space-time in the universe so extremely that they would create what’s called a ‘wormhole’. EinSteinchen explains how a theoretical journey through this kind of cosmic tunnel could provide shortcuts across the enormous distances of space.
EinSteinchen

124665 001 Nuclear Medicine: A Formula and its Results
When an atom in a radioactive element decays, then part of the matter that makes up its nucleus is transformed into energy. This is part of the proof that backs up Einstein’s realization that mass and energy are two sides of the same coin. Without Einstein’s discovery that is expressed in the formula \( E=mc^2 \), some later medical developments would not have been possible. Artificially produced radioactive substances known as radiopharmaceuticals play a major role in modern medical diagnostics and research.

124665 002 Satellite Navigation – Einstein’s Contribution to Galileo
Time is relative – in the field of satellite navigation, Einstein’s theory has practical applications. In space, clocks tick differently than they do on Earth. But the accuracy of satellite navigation systems is dependent on how precisely the atomic clocks on board can measure time.

124665 003 The Speed of Light – Part 1: Light Researchers
At the root of Albert Einstein’s Special Theory of Relativity is the assumption that the speed of light never changes. Einstein said that the speed of light is a universal constant, one that always remains the same no matter where you are. Is that really the case? European researchers now want to conduct an experiment in space to find out.

124665 004 The Speed of Light – Part 2: Radar Satellite
The speed of light also standardizes the exact length of a meter. That’s important for large-scale surveys like those slated to be carried out by the radar satellite TerraSAR-X. The radar satellite will begin surveying Earth’s surface with an accuracy never before seen in civilian applications. The new satellite, for example, will be able to map the ongoing urban sprawl of some of the world’s largest cities.

124665 005 The World’s Fastest Flash
Laboratories all over the world have been taking part in a competition to create shorter and shorter flashes of laser light. Now physicist Ferenc Krausz has broken a new barrier. He’s first to produce an attosecond pulse. An attosecond is an unimaginable \( 0.000 \ 000 \ 000 \ 000 \ 000 \ 001 \) of a second long. The technique that Krausz used is based on Einstein’s prediction of stimulated emission. The great physicist’s hypothesis helped lay the foundations for the development of that incredibly versatile tool – the laser.

124665 006 Juggling Ultra-Cold Atoms
Though he’s just 32 years old, Immanuel Bloch is already a professor of physics at the University of Mainz. He’s an expert on a state of matter that was predicted by Albert Einstein – Bose-Einstein condensation. Immanuel Bloch has now taken things a step further. He has become the first to crack the Bose-Einstein condensation wave and regularly arrange several hundred of these special atoms into a glowing grid. In the future, grids like these could make up the basic elements of a new kind of supercomputer.

124665 007 Cloned Atoms Through Teleportation
For the first time ever, Rainer Blatt was able to transfer the state of one atom to another. Although the process is called ‘teleportation’, no matter is transported from one spot to another. Instead, information leaps the gap. To achieve his goal, Blatt made use of what Albert Einstein described as the ‘spooky action-at-a-distance between particles’. The discovery is a scientific sensation, even though the teleporting distances crossed up until now have only been a few hundredths of a millimeter.
Organic Solar Cells
What a pain: the cell phone has to be charged at the mains every few days. But in future that could be rendered obsolete by a portable charging unit in a jacket. It consists of wafer-thin organic solar cells. Like conventional silicon cells, the organic solar cells convert light energy into electrical current. The principle behind it is the photoelectric effect. Albert Einstein received the Nobel Prize in 1921 for his explanation of this phenomenon.

The Search for a Theory of Everything
For much of his life, Albert Einstein sought a formula that would describe and encompass all four fundamental forces. He failed to find a unifying theory. The tunnel in Geneva is huge – and it runs in a circle that’s 27 kilometers long. Thousands of scientists all over the world are waiting with bated breath for experiments to begin in the Large Hadron Collider. It’s hoped that the gargantuan apparatus will be able to generate a kind of small scale Big Bang, lasting for just fractions of a second, that will recreate the conditions just after the birth of the universe.

Cosmic Telescopes: Discovering Distant Galaxies
According to a theory first put forward by Albert Einstein, a large body of mass curves space and the light that traverses it. Clusters of galaxies create what are known as gravitational lenses. Astrophysicist Joachim Wambsganß has spent years studying this phenomena in deep space. He searches and maps massive celestial objects such as galaxies that possess strong gravitational fields. These curve or bend the space around them, and force light from even more distant galaxies and objects into a curved rather than a straight trajectory. The process also ‘bundles’ the light, focusing and increasing its intensity.

Racing down Einstein’s Paths
Molecules in gas and fluids tend to behave in unordered and random ways. This phenomenon, first identified by the Scottish botanist Robert Brown and therefore named Brownian Motion, was also of great interest to Albert Einstein. In 1905, he published his studies on Brownian Motion. Today, his findings can help researchers solve many of the problems linked to the movement of particles.

Time Travel Through Wormholes – Nothing More than a Dream?
As early as 1935, Albert Einstein and Nathan Rosen recognized that relativity theory did not rule out ‘bridges’ through space-time. Today, we call these hypothetical pathways ‘wormholes’. Physicists nowadays admit that time travel through wormholes is at least theoretically possible, although journeys into the past or future have remained firmly in the realm of science fiction.
The digital revolution has advanced into many areas of our lives. For most people, digital technologies are now an intrinsic part of both working life and leisure time. In many ways, they enrich our life and make it easier – for example, by making information and resources accessible, providing a diverse range of communication platforms, and taking on monotonous or dangerous jobs. Highly complex systems can now detect cancer cells in tissue samples more quickly and efficiently than ever before, or brake vehicles ahead of a potential collision. But these technologies also harbor risks. Many everyday interactions require us to divulge a huge amount of personal information – used by unknown entities to bombard us with news, marketing and political messages. The question is: Who – or what – are the better decision-makers. Humans or machines?

**Cyborgs – Hybrid Beings as Humans of the Future?**

Artificial Intelligence combined with sensor- and control technology is already enhancing the lives of disabled people – in the form of intelligent arm or leg prostheses or devices that process visual or acoustic signals in order to stimulate particular nerves in blind or deaf people. Might similar systems soon be available to anyone – for example, to enhance personal performance or the capacity to absorb information? While skeptics warn of risks for society and mental health, enthusiastic supporters see digitally augmented humans at the threshold of a new and better era.

**The Promise of AI – Paradise or Robocalypse?**

Chatbots that can hold witty conversations, medical systems that diagnose cancer, and autonomous machines capable of deadly force – artificial intelligence is transforming many important aspects of human life. The algorithms used by these systems are in perpetual development mode. On the basis of certain criteria, they quickly learn to evaluate their input and make swift decisions. When it comes to speed, they often have the edge on humans. But just how much can and should they replace us? A question addressed by AI experts, ethicists and philosophers.

**The Artist’s Code – Can Algorithms Be Creative?**

Popular pieces of music, paintings, sculptures and novels are all constructed around a particular framework of rules. Complex software now allows us to analyze and visualize those rules like never before. Could this reveal the secret of great art? Publishers already use algorithms to predict the success – or failure – of a book. Adaptive systems can already write music in the style of famous composers or use 3D printers to produce new artwork that look like the real thing. Could such perfect creations soon overshadow the work of human artists?
Humanoid Robots – Friendly Helpers or Alien Machines?
All over the world, scientists in a vast range of disciplines are working on the development of humanoid robots. It’s proving to be a huge challenge. Sensor technology, advanced mechanics and control algorithms allow robot hands to operate with great sensitivity. Self-learning systems that aim to imitate human gestures and facial expressions are improving all the time. And Artificial Intelligence facilitates object recognition. But important questions remain: how should the limits of autonomous robot activity be defined? And what should humanoid robots look like so as to foster natural interaction with humans?

Virtual or Reality? – Creating Immersive Worlds
Digital visualization, interaction and sensor technology are changing the way people connect with each other and interact with machines. In what way can technological development enhance the way the world appears in virtual narratives? Just how much agency should be given to an audience to allow them to influence the world they find themselves in? How can rules be developed to enable users to map out a narrative together?

The Interfaces of the Future – New Models of Interaction
A prosthetic hand that can’t just grip but also feel. An intelligent running shoe that responds to its surroundings. Inconspicuous pigments that allow users to play digital instruments. Traditional instrument-making faces competition from efforts to refine the capabilities of 3D printing. Material researchers and developers are turning ideas on their heads, blurring the boundaries between technology and its surroundings and inspiring new ways to reinvent the interfaces of the future.

Collective Objectives – Goals for the Digital Age
Amid the rapid acceleration fueled by automation, processor development and storage optimization, reality has long since caught up with sci-fi. And there’s no sign of the process slowing any time soon. The question is: where exactly are we heading? And who’s in the driving seat? How can these digital tools be used to solve the problems of the future?

Hyper-Acceleration – Trading at the Speed of Light
High-performance computing and scripts are locked in a race on global financial markets. Algorithms react to market changes in milliseconds and, based on those fluctuations, make trading decisions that in turn influence the market. In its huge complexity, this automated sphere is comparable with the weather. It leaves the actors of the real economy out in the cold – when it comes to profits, at least. How did this digital evolution take hold – and where is it leading financial markets?
The Emoji ABC – Developing a Global Language
They've established a new mode of communication in what feels like the blink of an eye: the cute little faces and symbols now installed on every mobile device on the planet. Emojis use gestures, facial expressions and symbols to cross language barriers and convey messages in a way that's quite simply child's play. They've evolved into a universal alphabet that's growing all the time. But who decides which emojis are available on our devices? And how is the palette being expanded?
Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Machines on the March – Can AI Be Controlled?
The development of artificial intelligence inspires both awe and fear. Whereas in many fields AI already exceeds human capabilities, in other areas it can't match the agility of a real brain. But is it just a matter of time before machines take over completely? Some experts are convinced that with AI homosapiens is creating its successor. As the two compete for dominance, how can this help us to spot the potential dangers of AI? And as biological beings, what can humans glean from the development of machine learning?
Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Digital Attraction – Challenging Beauty Ideals
Everyone needs profile pictures for social media or job applications. On digital platforms, self-portrayal often turns into self-marketing. What some consider blemishes can be easily removed with the help of filters. This leads to the dissemination on social media of physical ideals far removed from reality - and to these ideals becoming more homogeneous around the world. How does the way people really look and see themselves relate to their tweaked online images? And who decides what's beautiful and what is not?
Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

The Spirit of Tech – How Mind and Matter Relate
Religion and digital technologies have more in common than we might think. Both are bound up with desires, fears and hopes. Many of the promises of the technological universe built on data and algorithms resemble those of mainstream religions. The digital age is creating its own brand of savior – the likes of Jeff Bezos and Elon Musk. Devotees of dataism believe that the entire universe consists of data flows. Some hope that with the help of data we will at some point be able to give machines some sort of consciousness. But how many of the secrets of life can really be described or even "recreated" using scientific methods, with math or physics? Will humans ever be in a position to create conscious machines – or will machines be able to develop a consciousness of their own accord?
Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
Delegated Responsibility – What Sort of Tasks Can We Entrust to Machines?
Whether it's autonomous vehicles, autonomous drones or medical applications, technological progress has vastly expanded the scope of human activity in recent years. But technology can be used to both good and bad ends. Drones can be deployed as weapons of war – or, say, used to locate and recover the injured following natural catastrophes. In medicine, AI is already used to grade the genetic viability of harvested human eggs. But should machines then decide which should be fertilized and implanted, and which discarded? Scientists, philosophers and programmers are all grappling with the question of how much responsibility should be assigned to machines – and which decisions are best left to humans.
Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR

What is Reality? – How Deepfakes Work
Deepfakes are synthetic media created by Artificial Intelligence, where real people are made to say and do things that they have not actually said or done. Experts fear that, by the year 2030, up to 90 per cent of all online videos could consist of synthetically generated images. These days it's already difficult to tell a deepfake from an authentic video. And the Computer-Generated Imagery applications used to create this kind of material are now very user-friendly and accessible to all. Should we be defending reality against fakes? And if so, how?
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Data Protection – How to Maintain a Safe Online Presence
What do cybercriminals, Big Tech companies and intelligence agencies have in common? They're all keen to get their hands on Internet users' personal data. That's because in the 21st century control of this kind of information equals power. But divulging personal data is necessary for using online tools and for taking part in society nowadays. What might adequate online data protection look like? Different issues require different approaches: for example, raising awareness among young people about safeguarding their private lives; or ensuring journalists can send sensitive material via secure channels. If Internet users want a safe online experience, what questions should they be asking themselves? And what tools and strategies can they use as they navigate the web in their everyday lives?
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR
264940 016
Cryptocurrency’s Promise – The Power of Profit
Cryptocurrency, also known as ‘crypto,’ has been hyped for years. Digital money is touted as a means of emancipation from big banks and a way to get around strict financial regulations. It’s traded as a hot commodity and promoted by celebrities as the currency of the future. Glossy Instagram ads make it seem like cryptocurrencies are everywhere. Yet thus far, hardly any nations have recognized crypto as legal tender. Like any new technology, cryptocurrency offers opportunities – but it also poses risks.
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

264940 017
TikTok – How an App is Shaping Our Worldview
TikTok has taken the world by storm. Since the social media platform’s early days in 2018, the app has been downloaded billions of times. Millions of people scroll through TikTok’s endless feeds of short videos every day. Content is filtered: Data analysis tools are used to suggest videos for individual users based on what TikTok deems interesting. Content classified as controversial by TikTok gets less visibility or is filtered out entirely. This process automatically excludes certain topics and users, including people of color, people with minority views or people with disabilities. Who has access to all this data – and what kinds of worldviews are being conveyed?
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

264940 018
Driving the Digital – Lithium-ion Batteries
Lithium-ion batteries: From smartphones to electric cars, nearly every battery-powered device relies on them. Lithium-ion technology is particularly important for something called ‘intralogistics’ – the logistics within a company. In addition to the movement of materials, intralogistics also encompasses things like storage, packaging and data technology. Today, all these processes are often controlled digitally. From querying resource availability to the use of transportation vehicles and AI-controlled large-scale storage, nothing in global commerce runs without the rapidly advancing technology of lithium ions.
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

264940 019
All-Seeing AI – Predicting Voter Behavior
The ability to predict shifts in public opinion has evolved exponentially in recent decades. Today, artificial intelligence and social media data are being used to predict voter behavior in previously impossible ways. With virtually every Internet service we use, we voluntarily and often unconsciously disclose personal data. This data is then analyzed by AI to create profiles of different population groups – and their political preferences. The resulting political predictions are astonishingly accurate. But how should politicians deal with these high-tech psychograms of their constituencies?
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

264940 020
The Wikipedia Project – Knowledge and Power
With its philosophy of trying to provide free access to the sum of all human knowledge for all, Wikipedia has supplanted printed encyclopedias. In total, the website features some 50 million articles in nearly 300 languages. Anyone can contribute to it. But little is known about the individual creators of this vast pool of knowledge. What drives them to spend unpaid time in the service of human knowledge? And what happens when authors with hidden agendas infiltrate the community on behalf of states or industrial giants? Finally, might these contributors soon be replaced by Artificial Intelligence?
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
Faster, Higher, Stronger

**Tomorrow’s Technology**

Faster, Higher, Stronger – technology has always been a driving force of human development. Engineers around the world tackle every conceivable challenge and regularly achieve the impossible. Tomorrow’s Technology is all about amazing adventures, intellectual and physical. Faster, Higher, Stronger – Tomorrow’s Technology tracks the latest developments from the drawing board to implementation. The brilliant engineers of today are helping to shape the world of tomorrow.

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**264777 014**

**Airbus – Every Day A New Aircraft**

Almost every day, a new aircraft leaves the Airbus plant in the northern German city of Hamburg. This is where the final assembly of the short- and medium-range A320 takes place – using components brought in from all over Europe. It’s also where the huge A380 gets a coat of high-performance varnish in the world’s largest painting hangar. New plastic components reinforced with carbon fiber are being developed to make the aircraft of the future lighter and more stable. Technicians and flight crews conduct virtual tests on each and every plane. The high-tech future is taking off.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR**

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**264777 015**

**The Port of the Future**

Container ships have always been big and they are getting even bigger. More and more cargo has to be transported and handled as speedily as possible. But how will the world’s ports cope with these higher volumes in the coming decades? While Dubai’s Jebel Ali Port has focused on expanding its footprint, the port of Hamburg, where more real estate is not available, has focused on automation and rationalization, and Rotterdam has built the world’s first fully-automated terminals. What do these developments and trends mean for the ports of the future?

**Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR**

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**264777 017**

**High-tech Trucks on the Autobahn**

In goods traffic on Germany’s highways, nothing is left to chance. The trucks are part of a high-precision logistics system. Customer deliveries are timed to the minute. To ensure the system works, trucks are monitored via satellite. Sensors in the asphalt count the vehicles: if there are too many on the roads, the speed limit on the digital road signs is reduced. Congestion managers provide real-time information to radio stations and navigation systems. The priorities are to prevent traffic jams and ensure maximum safety.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR**

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**264777 018**

**Man’s Dream of Flight**

“I fly, therefore I am” – that is the idea driving inventors and engineers to fly ever higher and further using as few resources as possible. Their innovations, such as paragliders and wingsuits, are not only exciting for extreme sportsmen and women. Latest developments in ultra-light aircraft and solar aircraft are paving the way for a more flexible and environmentally-friendly future.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR**
How Nature Heals

People around the world have been using natural substances to heal and cure illnesses for thousands of years. Long before doctors dominated the healing process with chemistry and scientific instruments, the natural world provided therapeutic resources in the form of plants, water, light and nutrition. Today, both patients and doctors are reconsidering "old" forms of treatment. There are hundreds of effective ways to treat human ailments – without troublesome side effects. Our series presents traditional and new forms of natural medicine.

264745 001  
**Yin and Yang – The Chinese Art of Healing**  
The Chinese art of healing is about more than acupuncture and herbalism. It also encompasses a healthy lifestyle and a good diet to bolster the immune system against illness. We embark on a search for the origins of natural healing practices in China's southern provinces.  
**Documentary, 30 min., 2010, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR**

264745 002  
**Paths to Islamic Healing – A German Doctor’s Quest**  
Dr. Lydia Reutter from Tübingen in southern Germany travels to Cairo to learn about traditional Arab medicine. But this knowledge is not easy to come by. These days, few hakims – or traditional healers – still work in the timehonored fashion.  
**Documentary, 30 min., 2010, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR**

264745 003  
**Medieval Medicine – Secrets from the Monastery**  
Since the early 1990s, a German medical historian has been scouring the libraries of European monasteries for documents detailing old remedies, recreating them and testing their efficacy. His conclusion: In the treatment of chronic ailments such as asthma, rheumatism or neurodermatitis, the old herbal preparations have greater healing powers than those conceived by conventional medicine.  
**Documentary, 30 min., 2013, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR**

264745 004  
**Healing Horses – The Wonders of Equine Therapy**  
Horses are highly sensitive animals. They are capable of responding to movements barely perceptible to humans and can effect healing where regular therapies fail. For example in the case of people who have been in a coma following an accident and have to relearn bodily functions such as breathing, swallowing and picking things up. Equine therapy promotes the healing process on both a physical and psychological level.  
**Documentary, 30 min., 2013, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR**

264745 005  
**Fasting as a Cure – New Research**  
Studies carried out by Russian scientists over several decades suggest that medically-supervised fasting can be used to treat a range of physical and psychological ailments. Recent studies appear to confirm at least some of these findings.  
**Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR**
Hypnosis, Meditation, the Laying on of Hands – The Healing Powers of Complementary Medicine

There are chronic diseases that continue to baffle modern medicine. Yet practitioners of alternative therapies say they can help, with methods such as hypnosis, meditation and relaxation exercises. Scientists have been looking into whether these approaches are effective – and why.

Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, LR

A Change in Diet – To Alleviate Symptoms

With modern medication, many health complaints can be cured or at least alleviated. But drugs have side effects, and they can sometimes be severe. Three doctors from northern Germany have specialized in prescribing changes to their patients’ diets as a way of reducing their reliance on medication.

Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

The Healing Powers of the Inner Physician

A view that is catching on in modern medicine is that the body’s self-healing response should be harnessed in the treatment of ill-health. Studies also suggest that a person’s mindset and attitude can influence the course of a disease.

Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR
Huge progress has been made in medicine over recent decades. For example, the discovery of fiber optics has made it possible to take a close look at the stomach and intestines. Magnetic resonance imaging creates three-dimensional images without using harmful X-rays. Advances in intensive care, transplantation and genetic engineering are making it possible to tackle diseases previously regarded as incurable. But there is still much uncharted scientific territory, for example with regard to diseases that have only emerged with our civilization.

Healing Power from the Desert – Secrets of the Bushmen
Devil’s claw is regarded as the most effective remedy against arthritis. In the struggle for survival, the Hoodia cactus from the Kalahari is taken as an appetite inhibitor. Is the knowledge of the inhabitants of the desert being exploited?
Documentary, 30 min., 2007, SD; Arabic, English, French, Spanish; LR

Healing Power from the Desert – Secrets of the Xhosa
The anti-viral and bacterial properties of sutherlandia frutescens, a South African shrub, bolster the immune system, stimulate the metabolism, and are used to combat secondary diseases associated with AIDS.
Documentary, 30 min., 2007, SD; Arabic, English, French, Spanish; LR

The Power of Protein – Can It Help Treat Cancer?
Scientists have discovered that patients with skin, liver or colon cancer have reduced levels of CYLD. It is a protein that inhibits the growth of tumors. But it will be some time before these findings can be applied to the development of any new cancer therapies.
Documentary, 30 min., 2012, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

Women Get Sick Differently
When it comes to afflictions of the body and mind, women deal with them in a different way to men. Women also experience illness in different ways. These well-known facts are rarely considered by doctors, scientific research and the pharmaceuticals industry. There are however signs that this attitude is changing, albeit slowly, within the medical industry, which is dominated by men.
Documentary, 30 min., 2012, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

Flu Vaccines – A Challenge for Science
Flu viruses are highly adaptable. Researchers track down suspicious mutations and dangerous viral combinations across the globe. In response to a rise in new strains of potentially lethal flu, the scientists’ goal is to develop super-flu vaccines early enough to prevent epidemics.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; M, IFE, LR
264607 061
When Back Pain Strikes – Which Treatments Can Help?
Back pain is a common complaint in the modern world. One key cause would appear to be an increase in pressure and stress in the workplace, resulting in prolonged tension in the muscles of the back. Latest research shows that such pain can be alleviated using a combination of different therapies.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

264607 064
Tuberculosis – A Disease Returns
For decades it was thought that tuberculosis had been eradicated. Now the disease is spreading again – at an alarming pace. The pathogens have developed resistance to the usual antibiotics. Because research into TB ceased, no new drugs are available. So the battle has recommenced.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

264607 066
Healing Foods
Can changing your eating habits not only prevent the occurrence of disease, but cure illness as well? An increasing number of conventional medical practitioners are embracing ideas and methods developed in traditional Ayurvedic medicine. A change in diet can make a big difference even for patients with certain forms of cancer and heart disease.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

264607 068
Electric Shocks Against Pain – New Approaches in the Treatment of Migraines
Often, it’s a long time before migraine sufferers are correctly diagnosed. But now it’s possible to spot and treat the disease early. One option is botox, another electric impulses that block the nerves at the back of the head.
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

264607 069
Varicose Veins Adieu – The Possibilities of Radiowave Therapy
Patients with varicose veins are usually advised by doctors to have the affected veins removed from the leg. It’s an effective, but messy treatment. Radiotherapy is a gentler method. It’s just as effective, and involves hardly any loss of blood.
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

264607 070
No More Joint Pain – Treatment Using the Body's Own Cells
It sounds like a vision of the future: A defective part of the body is reproduced in a test-tube using the body’s own cells and repaired. In the case of injured joints such as hips, knees or shoulders this is no longer a vision, but a reality.
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

264607 071
When Cold Saves Lives – The Power of Cool Temperatures
It’s not a pleasant experience to wait for 10 minutes in a cold chamber at a temperature of minus 110 degrees Celsius – but for patients with severe rheumatism, it’s an effective way of alleviating pain for long periods. Cold is also used as a treatment to prevent brain damage in stroke patients.
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

264607 072
Cancer Prevention – Opportunity or Risk?
Everyone fears a cancer diagnosis. That’s why many people attend precautionary examinations. But scientists are regarding these with increasing skepticism. This is because early screening tests aren’t always reliable. A false diagnosis can plunge patients into a crisis, or result in them being given unnecessary treatment.
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; IFE, LR

264607 073
Stroke – Every Minute Counts
Every year more than 15 million people around the world have a stroke. Almost half of them then have to contend with the resulting damage to their health. Doctors hope a new range of treatments will help reduce this number significantly.
Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; IFE, LR
The Human Microbiome – Maintaining Good Health with Useful Bacteria

The skin, intestine and numerous other human organs are home to a multitude of micro-organisms. Not only are these harmless, they actually make vital processes such as digestion possible. But these microbe communities are often damaged by an unbalanced diet, antibiotics or excessive hygiene, resulting in serious illness.

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; LR

Elimination Using Microparticles – The Gentle Alternative to Surgery

Many women are diagnosed with benign uterine tumours. When they cause severe symptoms, gynaecologists can recommend removal of the uterus. But there is a less drastic alternative: blocking the flow of blood to the tumours with small particles. A similar method is used to treat benign prostate enlargement in male patients.

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; LR

The Doctor as Detective – Tracking Down Unknown Diseases

There are cases in which doctors simply cannot identify an ailment. Some patients consult numerous specialists over the years without ever getting a diagnosis or therapy. A German cardiologist has set himself an ambitious goal: to find the correct treatment for patients whose symptoms challenge the standard diagnostic scheme.

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; IFE, LR
Multimodal Therapy – Alleviating Chronic Pain
Many patients with chronic pain are not getting effective, long-term relief. Although medical science is now aware that pain is more than just the body’s response to an irritant, it often just treats the symptoms. It is becoming increasingly evident that alleviation may be possible if physical, psychological and social factors are considered together. Therapy on several levels is yielding astonishing success.
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; LR

Caesarean – Emergency Operation or Standard Procedure?
Around the world today, more than twice as many children are delivered via caesarean than 20 years ago. Many doctors take a critical view of this development, which is occurring mainly in a number of industrialized nations. There is no question that, in some situations, the operation is the best option for mother and baby. But if it is not medically necessary, a c-section can have negative side-effects – not just for the mother, but also for the child.
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; IFE, LR

Forgetfulness or a Sign of Dementia? – The Early Detection of Alzheimer’s
Dementia can affect anyone. Even middle-aged people can fall ill if they have a particular genetic disposition. Are there ways to detect Alzheimer’s disease early? How far have treatments progressed? And what strategies are in place to facilitate daily life for those affected by dementia?
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; IFE, LR

Immunotherapy – A Ray of Hope for Cancer Patients
Immunotherapy is a promising treatment for patients with advanced skin, bladder, lung or kidney cancer. The body’s own immune system is stimulated with what are known as checkpoint inhibitors in such a way that it attacks tumor cells more aggressively. As a result, even patients thought to be no-hope cases are given a realistic chance of survival. In other cases, the disease is at least temporarily kept in check. But not all cases respond to the therapy.
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; IFE, LR

When Fear Makes Us Ill – Overcoming Anxiety Disorders
Anxiety disorders and panic attacks can make life unbearable. Many of those affected withdraw rather than seek help. But nowadays there’s a range of treatments available tailored precisely to the different manifestations of such disorders. Research has also found out more about the causes: as well as traumatic events, genetic factors appear to play a role.
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; IFE, LR
The Long Arm of the Doc: Precision Surgery with New Robots
For many years now, robots have been used in operations involving joints, the bladder, the kidneys and the prostate gland. Up-to-date equipment of this kind now facilitates highly complex procedures in the stomach and chest area. The robots are controlled by surgeons. With the help of these devices, the surgeons are able to conduct operations with great precision – to the benefit of the patients.
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; IFE, LR

Groundbreaking Therapies – New Approaches in the Treatment of Cancer
What factors contribute to the emergence of cancer cells? Research into this question has paved the way for new approaches in the treatment of the disease. These promise improved recovery prospects and fewer side effects than those experienced during standard treatment. Among the innovations: immunotherapy as both prophylaxis and treatment, and the use of nanoparticles that target and destroy tumor tissue.
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

Approaches to Osteoarthritis: Gentle Treatments for Joint Deterioration
Overloading and age-related wear and tear cause many people to experience joint pain. For some time now, it has been possible to replace entire joints with prostheses. But nowadays, more gentle treatments are achieving success with increasing frequency: for example, procedures to strengthen the cartilage or replace just the damaged parts of the joint with smaller prostheses.
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; IFE, LR

DNA Analysis: Perspectives for Modern Medicine
In recent years, it has become easier to have your own genome tested for personal risk factors. But just how reliable is this information and in which areas is it truly beneficial? Research shows that genetic dispositions often determine the efficacy of a particular medication. This means that in many cases, bespoke treatments can be put together in a bid to avoid side effects.
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

Crazy Hormones – Women and Men in Mid-Life
Women, and also many men, experience dramatic hormonal changes in middle age. Some people think of menopause as if it were a kind of illness. But from a medical perspective, it is a natural change in the body, albeit with sometimes unpleasant side effects. The jury is still out on whether hormone replacement therapy is appropriate in such cases.
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Tuberculosis – A Lurking Threat
In several countries it looked like TB had been almost vanquished, and then the incidence started rising again in recent years. It is a dangerous infectious disease. Misdiagnosis is not uncommon. What is more, some strains of the bacteria that cause TB are developing a resistance to antibiotics.
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Genetic Destinies – How Much Do We Need to Know?
How does knowing you have inherited a genetic defect affect your life? How much do we want to know about our future health? More and more often, doctors and patients are being confronted with questions such as these. Of particular concern to parents: are they passing on risks to future generations?
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M LR

Food Supplements – Benefits and Risks
Many people take vitamin, protein and mineral supplements as part of their health and fitness regime. These products claim to address nutritional deficiencies and prevent illness. As for how much to take, it’s generally thought “the more, the better”. But that’s not always the case. A supplement-heavy diet carries potential risks – which are often glossed over.
Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR
Cardiac Medicine – Back to Normal Life
A diagnosis of heart disease always has a great impact on the lives of those affected. But a wealth of new therapeutic approaches such as relatively gentle surgical procedures, special post-operative care and herbal remedies mean that, after a while, many patients these days can look forward to leading normal lives again.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR

Osteopathy – Gentle Hands-On Therapy
Osteopathic treatments can go a long way to easing symptoms and curing ailments – not just in patients with muscle and joint pain, but also those suffering from migraines, internal organ complaints and developmental disorders in infancy. Osteopaths use nothing but their hands: They locate areas of tension, find clues to their cause and free-up blockages. In recent years, many cases have provided scientific evidence of the efficacy of these methods, which are usually considered complementary to conventional treatments.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR

The Placebo Effect: The Immune System Responds
The idea that your brain can convince your body that a fake treatment is the real thing is nothing new. But how can the phenomenon be explained? New research shows that the interaction between patient and doctor, as well as the neurophysiological reaction to this, exert a positive influence on the immune system. Physicians now want to harness this effect for more specific treatments.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR

Noises in the Head – Living with Tinnitus
Some people endure daily life with a constant hissing, whistling or other noise in their heads. These sounds have no external source. Few of those affected manage to permanently rid themselves of these phantom noises. Although there are now many different treatment options, to this day doctors and acousticians still cannot agree on the causes of this illness. What we do know for sure: Learning how to manage the perpetual noise is key to stress-free everyday life with tinnitus.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

The Immune System – Robust Defense with Weak Spots
Why do some people fall ill easily with an infectious disease, whereas others get infected but remain asymptomatic or even fend off the pathogen entirely? The body’s immune system is a highly complex network in which different organs, cell types and biochemical substances interact. The system can render pathogens, toxins and cancer cells harmless and heal injuries using the body’s own remedies. Doctors are now gaining a better understanding of how it works and how it can be supported in its vital function.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
Trust Builds Confidence – New Approaches in Psychiatry

Many psychiatric clinics now integrate peer workers into their treatment programs. These are people who themselves suffer from poor mental health and who have received special training to help others with similar experiences. The peer workers are employed in a range of roles that complement those of psychiatrists and psychologists. This establishes a very different relationship to patients, one with great potential for success.

Managing Hair Loss – The Risks and Side-Effects

Many men start losing their hair in middle-age. While some accept the change in their appearance, others are determined to reverse the process. Some opt for a hair transplant, while others take medication originally developed for diseases affecting the prostate. But in some cases, treating the problem with drugs can have serious side-effects.

Tired All the Time: Chronic Fatigue Syndrome

People with chronic fatigue syndrome suffer a catalog of ill effects. Often their complaints aren’t taken seriously; their permanent tiredness puts huge pressure on their relationships and can result in social isolation. The process is usually gradual: physical and mental resilience decreases with no obvious cause. The disease has come under greater scrutiny since the coronavirus pandemic and the emergence of long COVID. One hypothesis is that viruses can trigger the syndrome.

Herbal or Synthetic Medication: The Risks and Side-Effects

Herbal products are gaining in popularity worldwide. Whether used to treat a cold, a chronic illness or a wound that isn’t healing properly, they are often seen as gentle alternatives to conventional medicines. Many pharmacies and pharmaceutical companies have responded to the growing demand. It is often claimed that herbal supplements harness “the gentle power of nature” but that doesn’t mean they are free of side-effects. Nor are they always effective in treating an illness. In some cases, the best results may be attained with a combination of herbal products and conventional medicines.

Back to Active Life: The Healing Power of Movement

Physical exercise can ease symptoms and even slow the progression of a range of diseases and conditions – ranging from back pain to certain cardiovascular disorders. We’ve known for a long time about the benefits of regular exercise. But recent research shows it can also be an important part of cancer treatment, reducing side-effects and improving overall physical health and mental well-being.

Menopause: The Hormonal Rollercoaster

Many women over 40 suddenly find themselves dealing with unfamiliar physical and emotional discomfort: from hot flushes, muscle and joint pain and insomnia to forgetfulness and dramatic mood swings. This can be very unsettling for those not initially aware of the cause. The changes are triggered by the hormonal upheaval associated with the gradual cessation of the menstrual cycle. Nowadays there are many ways to alleviate the symptoms of menopause and the anxiety they bring – from various medical treatments and dietary changes to psychotherapy and support groups.
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In rainforests, in savannas, in the mountains or at the depths of the oceans – all over the world, animals have adapted biologically and behaviorally to their differing habitats. In recent years and employing up-to-the-minute technology such as high-speed cameras and ultra-sensitive sensors, filmmakers have been able to capture extraordinary images of animals and their habitats thus far shielded from the gaze of humans. The more we learn about how animals live in the wild, the more amazed we are at the marvels they represent.

164817
Documentary, 43 x 30 min., Arabic, English, Spanish
04 x 30 min., Russian

164817 001
Serengeti Adventure – Capturing Animals on Camera
The endless expanse of the Serengeti in eastern Africa is one of the world’s best-known wild animal habitats. Reinhard Radke spent two years there observing herds of gnus, crocodiles and cheetahs to create a fascinating and breathtaking film.
Documentary, 30 min., 2013, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

164817 002
Andean Bears – The Shy Mountain-Dwellers
The only bear native to South America lives in the cloud forests of the High Andes. Andean bears are the last remaining species of short-faced bear. The diet of these timid creatures consists primarily of plants and fruit, though they will occasionally attack and kill for meat. The Andean bears and their habitat are largely unprotected, and humans are posing an increasing threat to the population.
Documentary, 30 min., 2013, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

164817 003
Africa’s Largest Elephants – Big Tuskers
Big Tusker is the name given to Africa’s most powerful bull elephants, whose tusks weigh at least 50 kilograms each. There are thought to be just 40 surviving Big Tuskers on the entire continent. At the Krüger National Park in South Africa, we gain an insight into the lives of Africa’s last giants.
Documentary, 30 min., 2013, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

164817 004
Polar Bears in the Grass – Canada’s Remarkable Predators
Hudson Bay in northeastern Canada is home to the world’s only polar bears that live mainly in forests and on grassland, which are only covered in ice during the winter. Once that ice has melted, the bears are forced to revert to a predominantly herbivorous diet, and a tough battle for survival begins again.
Documentary, 30 min., 2013, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

164817 005
Giant Anteaters – The Peculiar Loners
Whether in marshlands, forests or savannas, the giant anteater can be found in a range of habitats in Central and South America. Regardless of where it lives, the anteater’s chief concern is to find an abundance of ants and termites. We observe these curious animals in the pristine tropical wetlands of the Pantanal basin in Brazil.
Documentary, 30 min., 2013, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
NATURE

Termites – Highly-Efficient Builders
They shy away from sunlight and some species are even blind, but termites are outstanding architects, perfect road builders, optimally organised harvesters and, above all, efficient users of energy. Their nests are architectural works of art and are home to highly-complex societies made up of different castes with specialist functions.

Jaguar – The Majestic Beauty
The jaguar is the world’s third-largest cat, and king of the South and Central American rainforests and savannas. These animals prefer habitats that are humid and close to the water, and occupy large swathes of territory which they patrol alone. The jaguar was revered as a deity in many Native American cultures. But to this day, little is known about its way of life.

Raccoons – Adaptable Cosmopolitans
The raccoon is indigenous to North America, where it is a common sight. But now there are also large populations of the animal in Europe. Recent research shows that they inflict very little damage on the biodiversity of their new homes. The intelligent, adaptable mammals are omnivores that are active at dusk and during the night, and they evidently like to live in close proximity to humans.

Meerkats – Vigilant Foragers
Meerkats live in arid regions of southern Africa. They lead a highly sociable existence in groups of up to nine, feeding mainly on insects and other arthropods. Several groups can join together to form a mob, which then shares an underground burrow complex.

Indian Lions – The Kings of Gujarat
Lions are not only indigenous to Africa. They were once a common sight in Asia too. Today, only a few hundred are left there, and they all live in and around the Gir Forest National Park in the Indian state of Gujarat. Thanks to a comprehensive protection scheme, the population is beginning to recover.

Dragonflies – Agile Hunters of the Air
Dragonflies have lived on earth for 320 million years. They spend most of their lives as larvae underwater, until they emerge as adults and take to the skies as consummate hunters. Using high-speed cameras, we show the complex beauty of a dragonfly’s flight.

Anaconda – The Queen of the Snakes
The anaconda is one of the largest snakes in the world. Some specimens grow to a length of nine meters. When it comes to the lives of these huge reptiles, there are still many unanswered questions. Anacondas inhabit the northern lowlands of South America, and spend much of their time under water. We visited some living along the rivers of a remote Brazilian forest.

Kea – New Zealand’s Quirky Parrots
Kea or Mountain Parrots are among the most intelligent birds of all. The only parrots that can live in snowy climes, they are highly playful creatures that like to experiment. This makes them unpopular with people who live in the alpine regions of New Zealand, where few pieces of technical equipment are safe from the inquisitive birds.

Giant Otters – The Sociable Hunters
Giant otters live in the rivers, lakes and swamps of South America’s tropical rainforests. Apart from their size, their highly developed social behavior also makes them distinct from other otters. The animals live in groups of up to 10 and hunt, sleep, play and raise their young together.

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Manatees – Friendly Giants of the Caribbean
Many West Indian manatees like to spend the winter in the warm waters of Florida, gathering at springs or in river estuaries. But there they face the constant danger of collision with motor boats. Many manatees are injured or killed by propellers. If they are lucky, the wounded are taken to their very own hospital at Tampa Zoo.

Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Komodos – The Last Dragons
The Komodo dragon is the world’s largest species of lizard, and can be found in the Lesser Sunda Islands of Indonesia. Komodo dragons are hunters and scavengers that feed on large animals. They also eat smaller members of their own species. Toxins in their saliva help incapacitate their prey.

Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

White Storks – Europe’s Summer Guests
As winter approaches in the northern hemisphere, white storks head south to sub-Saharan Africa or southern Asia. The return journey takes many to Central Europe, where they spend the summer. There they have about 100 days to find a mate, breed and raise their young before their next departure.

Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Hippopotamuses – Heavyweight Water Dwellers
Hippos are among the world’s heaviest land mammals. They live in Kenya, Zambia and other countries of sub-Saharan Africa. They spend their days bathing in rivers. By night, they graze on land. They may appear docile, but when it comes to defending their young, hippos can become extremely aggressive.

Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Monarchs – The Long-Haul Butterflies
Monarch butterflies have striking orange and black wings and live in North America. But what makes them very special is their annual two-way migration to sunnier climes in Mexico and back again. It takes three or four generations to make the lengthy trip. Their mass migration is a magnificent spectacle.

Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; LR

Asia’s Rhinos – Rare Loners
The Sumatran rhino is a critically endangered species. It’s thought they may number less than 200. Its larger relative the Indian rhinoceros is faring only slightly better, with around 3,000 animals living in parts of northern India and Nepal. Members of both species live mostly solitary lives.

Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

Amur Tigers – The World’s Biggest Feline Predators
The Amur tiger is the largest living tiger subspecies. There are only 500 of them, and they live in eastern Russia, China and North Korea. No other tigers live so far north. The primary threats to these majestic hunters are the degradation of their habitat and poaching.

Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; LR

Dormice – Agile Nocturnal Climbers
The dormouse is a cute and cuddly rodent common in parts of Europe and Asia. They are nocturnal and they hibernate for up to seven months. When they’re not sleeping, they spend much of their time climbing in trees and bushes. While other animals have an entire year, dormice are under pressure to complete all the tasks necessary for their survival during the short summer nights.

Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR
Asian Elephants – The Thoughtful Giants
Asian elephants are a little smaller than their African cousins. Their temperament is considerably gentler, which is why they are still used as working animals in Asia to this day. In the wild, Asian elephants are nocturnal and semi-nocturnal and can be found in a diverse range of habitats – places that are increasingly encroached upon by humans.

Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; LR

Red Wood Ants – Eurasia’s Forest Police
Red wood ants improve the soil, spread plant seeds, remove cadavers and prevent the mass reproduction of other insects: they are hugely important for the ecosystem of the forests of Europe and Asia. They are a protected species in some countries, but occasionally it is necessary to relocate a colony.

Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Lions – The Challenges of Life in the Tanzanian Savanna
The huge Ruaha National Park in central Tanzania is home to a wide variety of wildlife. Its southeastern border is formed by the Great Ruaha River. A group of female lions lives on its banks. During the dry season, when all kinds of animals come to the river to drink, they wait patiently for them to arrive. But large animals such as buffalo or elephants are dangerous and aggressive opponents. Confronted with a large herd of buffalo, the lions need to devise new hunting strategies and engage in a full-on battle for survival.

Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR

African Elephants – The Giants of the Earth
African elephants are the largest terrestrial animals in the world. The pachyderms are exceedingly intelligent and demonstrate highly-developed social behavior. In the ecosystems of Africa they also play an essential role for other species of animals and plants. This and much more besides is best observed on a walking safari, for example in the Hwange National Park in Zimbabwe.

Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Treehoppers – A Bizarre Life Form
Insects from the family Membracidae, known as treehoppers or thorn bugs, feed on plant sap. They’re found mostly in the tropics. They live a short and rather unspectacular life and as a result little is known about them. But as far as their appearance goes, Nature has really gone to town: their bizarre appearance is partly due to the highly complex and protruding appendages of their pronotum – which are sometimes even larger than their bodies.

Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR
**Cranes – Symbols of Good Fortune**
The Eurasian crane is a large wader that spends the summer in northeastern Europe and northern Asia. There, the bird enjoys a mythical status, as a symbol for good fortune, long life, vigilance and peace. When they migrate to southern climes for the winter, large flocks cover up to 6,000 kilometers. The summer population in Estonia chooses various wintering grounds in Spain, Tunisia and Ethiopia. By tracking a family of cranes migrating to Ethiopia, scientists attempt to follow their exact route.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR**

**Cheetahs – Fast but Vulnerable**
Cheetahs are fast. Very fast. But they can’t keep their speed up for a long time and mostly hunt alone. For a mother of three cubs in the almost tree-less, dry savanna of the southern Serengeti, this means a daily challenge. She prefers to prey on young gnu, which cross the territory in huge herds during the annual migration. But a successful hunt requires several attempts, requiring the mother to wander far from her defenseless cubs. Does a group of young male cheetahs hunting together have more luck?

**Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR**

**Ethiopian Wolves – A Rare Canid**
The isolated mountain ranges of Ethiopia and eastern Sudan are home to the last Ethiopian wolves. They live in packs at altitudes of up to 4,500 meters and prey mainly on rodents. The biggest threat to their existence are infectious diseases they might catch from domestic dogs.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR**

**Eastern Coyotes – A New Hybrid Canid in Our Midst**
Despite their considerable size, an increasing number of eastern coyotes are appearing in cities in northeastern North America such as Toronto and New York. The animals are a mix of three species: wolf, dog and coyote – thereby providing fascinating insights into evolution influenced by humans. They’re also extraordinarily smart and adaptable, the best prerequisites for coexistence with people.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR**
Vicuñas – Camelids of the Andes
Vicuñas are smaller relatives of llamas; both species are members of the camelidae family. Vicuñas live in the South American Andes at elevations of up to 5,000 meters. With their preference for short grasses and their extremely fine but thick coat, they have adapted to the unforgiving highland climate. Every three years, the animals are shorn and the wool made into highly-prized items of clothing.

Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Desert Elephants – Huge and Hardy Survivors
African elephants have adapted to many different kinds of habitat, even dry regions with scant vegetation and seasonal rivers. Several hundred of these desert elephants live in Mali and Namibia. They are slimmer than other members of their species and have longer legs and larger feet. Each animal needs up to 300kg of food a day. Finding it involves long nocturnal treks across the rocky plains and arid valleys of northwestern Namibia.

Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

164817 042
Hummingbirds – America's Shimmering Nectar-Drinkers
Hummingbirds push the boundaries of possibility. They have a heart frequency of 1,200 beats per minute, as well as the highest metabolism of all vertebrates. Their wings beat 50 times per second. They can hover on the spot and even fly backwards. Humans have long been fascinated by the way they live, as well as their spectacular shimmering feathers.

Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

164817 043
Common Genets – Stealthy, Nocturnal Predators
Common genets are the only species of viverrid to live in Europe. They resemble domestic cats in size and appearance, but their bodies are more elongated and they have a longer muzzle and shorter limbs. Their behavior and prey range are also similar to a cat’s, but genets also like eating plants. Because they’re very shy and nocturnal, few humans have had the good fortune to be able to observe them directly.

Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

164817 044
Spotted Hyenas – The Clans of the Savannah
Hyenas have a bad rap. They’re seen as wily, cruel and dangerous. The fact that they scavenge to survive makes them even less appealing, in the popular imagination. But hyenas are highly intelligent, resilient and fascinating animals that live within a complex social and clan system. In particular, the spotted hyenas of Africa are in many respects extraordinary creatures that often hunt their prey as a group.

Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

164817 045
Yacare Caimans – A Struggle for Survival in the Pantanal
The Brazilian Pantanal is the world’s largest tropical swamp. But water levels fall dramatically every year during the dry season, leaving just a few remaining stretches of wetland. Only those animals able to reach the wetlands in time will survive. The region’s many yacare caimans have to fight for their lives – and their chance to reproduce.

Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Red Foxes – Omnivores and a Match for Anything
Red foxes are one of the world’s most common predators. They can be found almost everywhere in the northern hemisphere. Humans also introduced them to a part of Australia. These medium-sized, intelligent and extremely adaptable wild dogs can survive almost anywhere, from the city to the tundra. The animals are as resourceful as they are fearless and feed on anything they find.

Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
The Great Outdoors: Our National Parks

All around the globe, national parks play a key role in maintaining the ecological balance and biodiversity of our world. As nature reserves, they promote the natural and long-term development of extensive habitats and their species and ecosystems. National parks provide people with the scope and space for scientific research and education, as well as for leisure and tourism. This series takes a fascinating look at national parks all over the world. Using breathtaking footage, we show the unique character of these biospheres.

164836 001
Vast Expanse – Grand Canyon National Park, USA
Over millions of years, the Colorado River carved out a path up to 1,800 meters deep into the rock of the eponymous plateau, creating what is probably the most famous canyon in the world. It is a UNESCO world heritage site and the most popular national park in the USA, drawing some five million visitors every year.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

164836 003
Peaceful Coexistence – Pyrenees National Park, France
With towering peaks of up to 3,000 meters, the mighty Pyrenean mountain range separates the Iberian Peninsula from the rest of Europe. The Pyrenees national park provides ample space for traditional agriculture in harmony with the seasons, and it offers protection to rare species of animals such as the griffon vulture, brown bear and Pyrenean chamois.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

164836 004
Unspoiled Coastal Forests – Slītere National Park, Latvia
Dense mixed forest covers the sand dunes at Cape Kolka on the Baltic coast and is home to lynxes, elks, beavers and many other animals. We document the cycle of seasons at Slītere National Park, which is also popular with hikers and mountain bikers.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

164836 002
Extraordinary Fauna – Humboldt National Park, Cuba
Cuba is an island with a wide variety of landscapes and is home to unique species of flora and fauna. The Alexander von Humboldt National Park ensures the continuance of one of the most extensive diversity of species in the world, while at the same time providing a place for scientific research and the sheer appreciation of the natural world.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

164836 005
Underwater Treasure Hunt – Cocos Island National Park, Costa Rica
Cocos Island in the Pacific Ocean is the subject of many legends telling of pirate treasure. But the uninhabited tropical island's greatest treasure has to be its biodiversity, particularly underwater: This is undoubtedly one of the most spectacular places to dive in the world.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

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164836 006  
Alpine Beauty – Hohe Tauern National Park, Austria  
The Hohe Tauern National Park in the Austrian Alps encompasses mighty glaciers as well as the country’s highest peak, the Grossglockner. This fascinating habitat has been shared by animals and people for millennia.  
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, LR

164836 007  
No-Limits Eco-Tourism – Krüger National Park and Environs, South Africa  
Krüger National Park is one of the largest game reserves in Africa. But during the dry season, the larger animals often leave the park and enter privately owned nature reserves that specialize in sustainable tourism. Maintaining the animals’ freedom of movement is the first step towards enlarging the national park.  
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, LR

164836 008  
Protected Paradise – Tubbataha Reefs Natural Marine Park, The Philippines  
Close to the center of the Sulu Sea in The Philippines is the world’s most remote national park station. Nine rangers are on duty here protecting the Tubbataha Reef from illegal fishing and damage against the environment. The area, which is a UNESCO World Heritage site, is one of world’s most spectacular diving regions and is regarded as a key breeding ground for many threatened species in the largely depleted waters of The Philippines.  
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

164836 009  
The “Green Roof” of Europe – Šumava National Park, Czech Republic  
Along with the adjacent Bavarian Forest National Park in Germany, the Czech Šumava National Park forms central Europe’s largest continuous forested area. Mountain plateaus and upland moors are characteristic features of the landscape. Along what used to be the heavily fortified “Iron Curtain”, nature was left to flourish undisturbed. Animals here still avoid the area along the old border even though it is long gone.  
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

164836 010  
Guardians of the Holy Mountain – Mount Kenya National Park, Kenya  
At 5,200 meters, Mount Kenya is Africa’s second tallest mountain. It straddles the equator and is the heart of the Mount Kenya National Park. The mountain is considered holy by the communities living near it. The unique fauna of the Mount Kenya National Park attracts poachers. Rangers protect the wildlife and assist visitors from around the world who come to climb the peaks.  
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

164836 011  
A Desert by the Sea – Lençóis Maranhenses National Park, Brazil  
The dunes of Brazil’s only desert, which extends from the Atlantic through the federal state of Maranhão 40 kilometers inland, call to mind enormous bed sheets. This is in fact the name of this National Park, which protects the bizarrely beautiful landscape of windswept dunes and crystal clear, deep blue freshwater lakes. Rangers ensure that tourists only enter the park on specially guided expeditions.  
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

164836 012  
Conservation as Opportunity – Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park, Vietnam  
Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park is a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of the world’s largest karst regions, with hundreds of caves and grottoes. There are also mountains and extensive tropical forests, home to a wide range of species. Tourism is flourishing, and that provides local people with a source of income. But even forty years after the end of the Vietnam War, Phong Nha-Ke Bang is still riddled with unexploded mines and bombs, which pose a serious risk to humans and animals.  
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

164836 013  
Surrounded by Ice – Glacier Bay National Park, USA  
The Glacier Bay National Park in southwest Alaska comprises more than 50 glaciers. The calving of the glaciers in the bay is a show-stopping natural spectacle. Receding ice levels have resulted in the development of an ecosystem that is just 200 years old, which also provides scientists with exciting research opportunities.  
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR
Rebuilding a Reserve – Bouba Ndjida National Park, Cameroon
The national park in northern Cameroon was established in 1968. After many years of neglect, it is once again being actively managed, thanks to close cooperation between the park authority and people living there. Bouba Ndjida is a refuge for eland antelopes, primates, wild cats, elephants and many other species.

Newfoundland’s Raw Beauty – Gros Morne National Park, Canada
Canadians simply refer to the island of Newfoundland, situated to the east of the mainland, as “The Rock”. The harsh climate of the North Atlantic defines the isolated rocky island and its fauna, with several species unique to the area. The national park plays a key role in the protection of the natural environment and the cultural legacy of the Newfoundlanders, preserving them for future generations.

Underwater World in Need of Protection – Western Pomerania Lagoon Area National Park, Germany
The park serves to protect a unique landscape both beside and in the Baltic Sea in northeastern Germany. Research divers are documenting the little-known underwater world, thereby drawing attention to both the beauty of and the threat facing the fragile ecosystem there. A night dive provides marine biologists and photographers with new insights.

Spectacular Mountainscapes – Rocky Mountain National Park, USA
Visitors to the state of Colorado in the heart of the United States are greeted by a pristine environment of mountains and animal habitats with breathtaking views. There are more than 60 peaks over 4,000 meters here, in one of the highest national parks in the country. Adventurers can explore the wilderness on horseback.

Habitat for People and Animals – National Park of Abruzzo, Lazio and Molise, Italy
There are only a few dozen Marsican brown bears left in the wild. They are native to the rugged mountains and forests in and around the national park in the Apennines east of Rome. Wildlife photographer Bruno D’Amicis promotes conservation and sustainable tourism here in the wild heart of Italy, where you can observe bears, wolves, deer and chamois in their natural surroundings.

The Wapiti Mystery – Yellowstone National Park, USA
Following an 80 percent decline in the wapiti, or elk, population in the world’s oldest national park, rangers and biologists launch an investigation into the causes of this worrisome phenomenon. Their findings are baffling and provide valuable insights into the workings of a diverse yet fragile ecosystem.

A World Wonder in a Border Zone – Iguazú National Park, Argentina
In the frontier region between Brazil and Argentina, the waters of the Iguazú River thunder down from heights of up to 80 meters. The falls are regarded as one of the “Seven Natural Wonders of the World”. In the national park on the Argentinian side, rangers are trying to strike a balance between managing tourist numbers and protecting the natural beauty of the site. They’re also responsible for sections of the neighboring Atlantic Forest – home to endangered species such as the jaguar.
**Untamed Watery Landscape – Donau-Auen National Park, Austria**

Between two European capitals, Bratislava in Slovakia and Vienna in Austria, is central Europe’s largest remaining floodplain. It’s the only place where the continent’s second-longest river, the Danube, can flow freely into the floodplain area and form a diverse range of habitats. The reserve is home to numerous threatened species such as the white-tailed eagle and the European pond turtle.  

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

**Nature and Culture – Gwaii Haanas National Park, Canada**

Canada’s most remote national park extends over more than 130 islands, accessible only by boat or waterplane. The reserve on the north Pacific coast was founded in 1988. As well as protecting the islands’ flora and fauna, the area also preserves world cultural heritage sites of the indigenous Haida people. The Haida have lived on the archipelago for more than 14,000 years. They manage the park in cooperation with Canadian authorities.  

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

**High Altitude Survival – Baima Snow Mountain National Nature Reserve, China**

Inhabitants of the Baima Snow Mountains on the margins of the Himalayas are able to withstand extreme conditions at altitudes of up to 5,000 meters: for example, patient foragers find tiny caterpillar mushrooms on barren slopes. This is one of the last refuges of the black snub-nosed monkey, protected by gamekeepers and Buddhist monks. The production of traditional yak butter becomes a test of physical endurance as Tibetan herders drive their livestock up the mountains to pasture.  

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; IFE, LR

**Europe’s Last Lowland Primeval Forest – Białowieża National Park, Poland**

Six thousand years ago, the Great European Plain was covered by primeval forest. The last surviving area of this prehistoric woodland lies in the border region between Poland and Belarus. The Białowieża National Park on the Polish side is a strictly protected core zone of this UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is also home to the last wild population of European bison, which are now being reintroduced to other parts of the continent.  

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

**Diversity on Land and Underwater – Mingan Archipelago National Park, Canada**

This reserve on the Gulf of St. Lawrence in eastern Canada is famous for its limestone monoliths formed over millennia by water and ice. Less is known about the archipelago’s submarine world. With a vibrancy matching that of tropical waters, this nutrient-rich underwater realm is a feeding ground for many different species of whale. Park rangers are responsible for protecting these aquatic mammals, as well the huge variety of flora and fauna on some 30 forested islands.  

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

**From Private to Public – Patagonia National Park, Chile**

In 2018 the private nature-conservation project Patagonia Park in southern Chile became a public national park. The move followed 14 years of hard work enabling overgrazed farmland to revert to a wilderness of raw, untamed beauty. The story of how these ancestral habitats were reclaimed for llamas, pumas and other indigenous species is also the story of the people who made the metamorphosis possible against all odds.  

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR

**Kiwis and Kauris: Endemic Species Under Threat – Tongariro National Park and Waipoua Forest, New Zealand**

The island nation in the South Pacific works harder than most to safeguard its natural assets, not least due to the robust influence of indigenous Māori culture. But here too, ecosystems are endangered and in need of protection. Nature conservationists and concerned individuals are paying special attention to threatened endemic species such as the kiwi – New Zealand’s national bird – and the mighty kauri tree which can grow to a height of 50 meters.  

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR
164836 029
**Biodiversity on the Rio Grande – Big Bend National Park, USA**

One of the largest and most diverse national parks in the US owes its name to the huge bend in the Rio Grande around the Chisos Mountains on the border between Texas and Mexico. At elevations ranging from 500 to almost 2,400 meters above sea level, the reserve founded in 1944 encompasses a vast range of vegetation zones. Barren deserts, fertile canyons, wooded valleys and steep rockfaces are habitats for large mammals such as black bears and bighorn sheep as well as western diamondback rattlesnakes, pallid bats and tiny elf owls.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR**

164836 030
**The Realm of the Forest Elephants – Loango National Park, Gabon**

Gabon is green: with more than 80 per cent of its territory covered by trees, the equatorial country is one of the most forested on Earth. It’s home to around half of the world’s forest elephants – about one for every 50 humans living there. But people and animals aren’t always happy to share their space, particularly in the 13 national parks that now cover 10 per cent of Gabon’s land. For example, in the Loango National Park on the Atlantic coast, where authorities, conservationists and residents are working towards a constructive coexistence – in the realm of forest elephants, lowland gorillas and countless other flora and fauna.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR**

164836 031
**Partnership for Conservation – Peneda-Gerês National Park, Portugal**

The Peneda-Gerês National Park in the far north of Portugal lies in a climate transition zone between the Atlantic and the Mediterranean. Though covering just 700 square kilometers, the reserve includes a vast range of landscapes and types of vegetation. It’s home to Iberian wolves and small Garrano ponies, an ancient breed of horse. Only a small section of the park is in public hands. Most is privately owned and inhabited by humans. Here, landowners, residents and local authorities join forces to protect nature. In 2009, Portugal’s only national park was declared part of a World Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR**

164836 032
**A Park of Superlatives – Wood Buffalo National Park, Canada**

Covering almost 45,000 square kilometers, Canada’s largest national park is also the second largest in the world. It’s also the biggest dark sky preserve on Earth. Founded in 1922 to protect a herd of free-roaming wood bison, it is now home to around 3,000 of the animals – the largest free-roaming herd left in the world. There’s no better place to observe North America’s largest land mammal than here in the unspoiled heart of Canada. With the Peace-Athabasca Delta, the Wood Buffalo National Park also boasts one of the largest freshwater inland river deltas on Earth.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR**

164836 033
**Protected by the Jungle – Pù Mát National Park, Vietnam**

Large swathes of the Pù Mát National Park are thick virgin forest, offering a natural sanctuary to native species. But some of these animals are threatened by poaching: Asiatic black bears are hunted for their bile, which is used in traditional medicine, and pangolins for their scales and meat. Park rangers and staff at the animal protection agency “Save Vietnam’s Wildlife” do their utmost to ensure the safety of these and other endangered animals.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR**
164836  034  
**Life On and In The Water – Tun Sakaran Marine Park, Malaysia**

This marine reserve off the coast of Borneo comprises eight volcanic islands and one of the most species-rich reefs in the world. While the vibrant diversity of underwater life draws scuba-diving day trippers, members of the native Sama Dilaut community live on the water in boats and pile houses. But since the archipelago was designated a nature reserve, their traditional way of life has been under threat. While some families felt compelled to leave, others have found eco-friendly ways to earn a living there, such as the cultivation and sale of algae.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR**

164836  035  
**The Mysterious Rainforest – Darkwoods Conservation Area, Canada**

The world has very few temperate rainforests that are not located close to the sea. One of them is the Darkwoods Conservation Area in southwestern Canada. In the country's largest private nature reserve, meltwater creates a cold, damp climate where several at-risk tree species thrive, among them whitebark pines. Lichen on the oldest pines sustains the last mountain caribou of North America, which share this pristine habitat with grizzly bears, rare freshwater salmon, and threatened bat species that live in vast abandoned mines.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR**

164836  036  
**Balancing Nature Protection and Mass Tourism – Banff National Park, Canada**

Canada’s oldest national park is also one of its most popular. The landscapes of mountains, glaciers, rivers and lakes are breathtaking. Banff National Park in the Rocky Mountains is part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site and attracts more than four million visitors from around the world each year. They come to experience unspoiled nature. But hosting so many people while conserving the environment is a major challenge for the staff at the park.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR**

164836  037  
**In the Giant Lizards’ Realm – Komodo National Park, Indonesia**

The national park where the biggest attraction is a population of rare Komodo dragons comprises three islands and the sea that surrounds them. People living on the islands have mixed feelings about the giant lizards, which threaten their livestock but also attract the tourists they depend on for their livelihoods. Ranger David Hau, an expert on Komodo dragons, works to maintain neighborly relations between humans and beasts.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR**

164836  038  
**Where the Water Shines - Iberá National Park, Argentina**

The Esteros del Iberá in northeastern Argentina is one of the world’s largest freshwater wetlands. It was under threat from industrial farming until a private foundation got involved and worked to renature a large part of the region and restore biodiversity there. It then handed that area over to the state, which established the national park in 2018. One highlight among the conservation projects is the reintroduction of jaguars after decades of absence.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR**

164836  039  
**At the Foot of the Himalayas – Shuklaphanta National Park, Nepal**

The nature reserve in southwestern Nepal founded in 1973 extends over grassland, river valleys and forests, from lowlands to elevations of more than a thousand meters. It’s home to a multitude of rare and threatened plants and animals, including one of the world’s largest populations of swamp deer. Conservationists and rangers not only monitor and protect tigers, Indian rhinoceroses, crocodiles and other species, but also work to raise awareness of nature conservation issues within local communities.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR**
**Darwin's Legacy – Galápagos National Park, Ecuador**
Due to their isolated location in the Pacific Ocean, the Galápagos Islands are home to many endemic plant and animal species and are thus a perfect place for biological research. The naturalist Charles Darwin described the volcanic islands as “a little world within itself”; what he discovered there was a key impulse behind his theory of evolution. Almost the entire archipelago is a national park and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This does impose some restrictions on the 25,000 people living there, but many of them consider nature conservation a top priority.

**Toronto’s Green Lung – Rouge National Urban Park, Canada**
The metropolitan region of Toronto is home to more than six million inhabitants and the location of Canada’s first National Urban Park. Extending over a distance of almost 25 kilometers, the park reaches from the banks of Lake Ontario along the Rouge River and its tributaries into the hinterlands. Despite the park’s proximity to the country’s largest city, it boasts great biodiversity and a varied landscape of lakeshores, forests, meadows, rivers, wetlands and also farmland. This makes it an important place for local recreation and an opportunity to experience nature at first hand for some 20 per cent of the Canadian population.

**Masterplan for Marine Conservation – Marine National Park Project, The Seychelles**
Around half of the tropical archipelago’s land mass has been under conservation for years. But from 2014, in line with a national environmental masterplan, the protected marine area around the nation’s more than 100 islands was increased from 450 to more than 400,000 square kilometers. This globally unique expansion benefits many species and formations including coral reefs, which are both endangered and crucial for the marine ecosystem.

**Fire and Ice – Vatnajökull National Park, Iceland**
The Vatnajökull glacier forms the heart of Europe’s second largest national park. Beneath a layer of ice up to 1,000 meters thick lie active volcanoes. These are regularly monitored around the clock by geologists. Scientists are also keeping a close eye on increasingly rapid glacial retreat, here. Lava fields, glacial lakes, hot springs and one of the biggest waterfalls in Europe – the volcanic island’s extraordinary diversity is also a big draw for tourists.

**Natural Beauty on the Fringes of Europe – Parque Natural do Sudoeste Alentejano e Costa Vicentina, Portugal**
In the far southwest of Europe, one of the continent’s most intact coastal landscapes extends along the Atlantic. Wind and waves have carved out craggy cliffs here, while keeping mass tourism at bay. Instead, a nature reserve founded in 1988 now attracts zoologists and botanists from all over the world with its rich biodiversity. Other visitors admire the park’s vast scenic spectrum with its rugged beaches, hilly areas, river valleys, cork oak forests and the Sagres seafaring fortress on Cape São Vicente.
One in every four species of mammal, one in every eight species of bird and a third of all amphibian species are threatened with extinction. The diversity of life on our planet is declining at an alarming rate. The International Union for Conservation of Nature’s Red List of Threatened Species shows that not enough is being done to save them. The number of species on it has increased dramatically. Immediate, drastic action is required to preserve valuable habitats and halt the extinction of species.

**Bears in the Andes**
Few South Americans are aware that they share their homeland with a large species of bear: the Spectacled, or Andean Bear. The animals are descended from the largest primeval beasts of prey bears since the demise of the dinosaurs. They are still threatened with extinction to this day. Their natural habitat, the cloud forests of the Andes, is continually in decline, and they are also at the mercy of hunters.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2008, SD; Arabic, English, French; M, IFE, LR**

**Arctic Fox in the Ark**
Nordens Ark in western Sweden is a beautiful and special zoo located in a wonderful landscape beside a fjord. Its main task is to breed rare species such as the arctic fox, snow leopard, wolverines and European wildcats.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2009, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR**

**Dhole – The Disappearing Dog**
Once widespread in Asia, today the Asiatic wild dog – the dhole – is practically only found in India. But even there, its survival is under threat. Until recently, the dogs were hunted or poisoned mercilessly. The film observes these timid creatures in their natural habitat, the jungle of Periyar.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2009, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR**

**Surrogate Moms for Wombats**
Wombats used to be regarded as vermin in Australia and were hunted mercilessly. Of the three surviving species, one is in acute danger of dying out: the northern hairy-nosed wombat. Scientists and former hunters are looking at ways to save the dwindling population. One approach is to use southern hairy-nosed wombats as surrogate mothers.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2012, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR**

**The Vulnerable Nile Crocodile**
The Nile Crocodile was under threat from intensive hunting until the mid-1990s. Since then, a number of protective measures have led to a recovery in numbers. But the sudden death of masses of the animals in Olifants River in the South African Kruger National Park shows that even species with healthy populations can be vulnerable.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2012, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR**
Rhinos for the Serengeti
The Serengeti in Tanzania is famous for its huge herds of herbivorous animals and the large feline predators that hunt them. Rhinos are the only animals that have almost completely disappeared from the national park, hunted almost to extinction by poachers. While heavily armed rangers try to protect the animals that are left, black rhinos from South Africa are being flown into the Serengeti to boost numbers.

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Albatross Island
Several species of albatross nest in the middle of the stormy Antarctic Ocean on Bird Island. Populations are facing severe pressure; many birds are killed by long-line fishing. No other animals travel so far so fast as albatrosses. They can circumnavigate the globe in just a few weeks, almost without flapping their wings. The inhabitants of Bird Island have been the focus of the British Antarctic Survey for more than 50 years.

Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

The Disappearance of the Belugas
Beluga whales can be found in most Arctic and sub-Arctic waters. One of their most southerly populations is in the St Lawrence Estuary on the eastern coast of Canada, and it’s in decline. Not only are the animals here isolated from other populations, they’re also exposed to harsh environmental pressures. Researchers are trying to pinpoint the factors contributing to the decline in beluga numbers.

Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

In Search of the Wild Yak
Only around 20,000 wild yaks live on the vast steppes of western China, an area about half the size of Europe. The wild yaks are threatened by hunting, as well as by mixing with domesticated yaks and the diseases they can transmit.

Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Bearded Vultures over the Alps
The bearded vulture is a huge raptor that feeds primarily on bones. It lives in mountain regions of Asia, Africa and Europe. For a long time, it was erroneously regarded as a predator of herds and hunted to the brink of extinction. It was reintroduced to the French Alps 30 years ago; breeding pairs are now well established.

Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR
264702 037  
**Asian Black Bears in the Ussuri Krai**
The Asian black bear is prevalent in southern and eastern Asia. One of its subspecies – endangered like all the others – is the Ussuri black bear, which lives in the region of the same name in the far east of Russia. Poaching and the destruction of the bears’ habitat are huge problems. Biologist Alex Sedow is trying to find ways to protect the population.
*Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR*

264702 038  
**The Crocodiles of the Okavango**
The Okavango River begins in Angola, crosses a section of Namibia and then discharges into a closed basin in Botswana. It is home to Nile crocodiles, which are hunted as they pose a potential threat to humans. But the animals play an important ecological role: they eat large catfish, preventing these from proliferating and decimating stocks of other fish in the Okavango, which represent the livelihood of local people.
*Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR*

264702 039  
**The Return of the Ferruginous Duck**
The small ferruginous duck used to be a very common sight on the steppes of Asia and in central and eastern Europe. But populations have shrunk; in Germany the duck was almost completely eradicated. A breeding and resettlement program is now underway in the north of the country – and although the duck is regarded as relatively easy to breed, this is still a complex endeavor.
*Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR*

264702 040  
**Replica Leopard Fur – A Unique Conservation Project**
The southern African leopard population is decreasing at an alarming rate. One key factor: members of a religious community wear leopard skins, once reserved for Zulu kings, as ceremonial garments – and they need replacing every few years. Conservationists are helping church members switch to faux fur.
*Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR*

264702 041  
**The Alpine Ibex – A Success Story**
The Alpine ibex was almost extinct two centuries ago, with just one hundred of them living in a single area of the Italian Alps. Thanks to conservation efforts and resettlement programs, this species of wild goat with its magnificent horns now numbers more than 30,000 and can once again be found throughout the Alps.
*Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, LR*

264702 042  
**Desert Observations – The Gobi Bear**
The Gobi bear is an extremely rare sub-species of brown bear and is considered critically endangered. It’s thought there are only 20-30 specimens left, living in a remote area of the Gobi Desert. But if they are to be protected, we need to find out more about them.
*Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR*
Vipers – The Snake That Came in From the Cold
The common European viper or adder is a small poisonous snake found across Europe and Asia. It’s special because it can also survive in northern climes, even beyond the Arctic Circle. While its total population is not under threat, the snake’s habitat requirements are so specific it faces challenges on a regional level.
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Lemurs in Need – The Last Silky Sifakas
The demand for prized hardwoods is threatening the forests of Madagascar and the animals living there. The north of the island is home to the last 250 silky sifakas, a species of lemur. Its mountain habitat is being destroyed and the entire species is in critical danger.
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Cape Gannets – Daredevil Hunters Under Threat
Cape gannets are remarkable hunters native to the coastal regions of South Africa and Namibia. They plunge into the sea from great heights to catch schooling fish such as sardines. The shoals used to run into the millions, but they’re being decimated by intensive fishing, with drastic consequences – and not just for the gannets, as many other marine predators are also dependent on this source of food.
Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Canadian Beavers – Return of the Dam-Builders
Beavers were almost eradicated from many parts of North America. They were hunted for their pelts and flesh, but also because their dams sometimes flooded fields and pastures, roads and homes. But there’s a growing realization that they play an important role in the ecosystem, one that can also benefit people. That’s why efforts are being made to resettle beavers in some areas.
Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

The Wandering Lions of Gujarat
The habitat of the Asian lion once extended from India to the Balkans. But of that vast area, just one tiny island remains: the Gir National Park in the state of Gujarat in western India. But recently, an increasing number of Asian lions are venturing outside the park and coming close to villages and farms. The situation is not as problematic as one might expect: a relationship is developing between lions and humans that is not defined by conflict but by tolerance and the ability to coexist.
Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Too Tasty to Survive? The Depletion of Sea Cucumbers
Sea cucumbers are traditionally fished in the South Pacific for the Chinese market. Mostly traded in dried form, these members of the starfish family are regarded as a delicacy. But increasing demand is exerting pressure on the animals’ populations and the ecosystems in which they live, as well as on the people who catch them. And the overexploitation is spreading to other ocean regions.
Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Venomous Snakes of Bolivia
Bolivia is home to many venomous snakes, with new species being identified all the time. Among them: a pit viper thus far captured on a single photograph. Two Spanish herpetologists have set out to locate the snake in order to conduct a scientific assessment. Time is of the essence, as they suspect that the species could be under threat. Encounters between venomous snakes and humans often end fatally – usually for the snakes.
Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, LR
**Long Ears, Powerful Legs, Nowhere to Run: The European Hare**
The European hare is one of Eurasia’s best-known wild animals. It thrives in open landscapes traversed with hedges and bushes for cover. Hares have a varied herbivorous diet and while they usually forage in groups, they also like to strike out alone during twilight hours and at night. Populations have declined in many European regions due to intensive farming practices that choke unspoilt nature with vast monocultures.

**Beach Life – A Niche for the Black-Backed Jackal**
The black-backed jackal is a small canine prevalent in eastern and southern Africa. Its adaptability enables it to thrive in a wide variety of habitats. For example, the dry and inhospitable Skeleton Coast of Namibia where the animals have been driven by farmers. Among the prey they find there is the Cape fur seal. These gentle giants can be many times larger and heavier than the jackals.

**Polar Bears – Rulers of a Dwindling Habitat**
The polar bear, the largest land-based carnivore on Earth today, is under threat. The animal’s biggest problem is sea ice melting accelerated by climate change. Polar bears depend on the ice in the northern polar region where they spend most of their lives hunting seals. The bears rely almost exclusively on a diet of seal meat to survive and there is little alternative prey on offer in their Arctic environment.

**Whitetip Sharks – From Hunter to Hunted**
Until a few decades ago, the oceanic whitetip shark was one of the most abundant large animals on Earth. It is considered a threat to humans, although it lives in deep temperate waters and encounters are rare. Little is known about the species, although one thing is certain: hunting the sharks for their fins is causing a worrying population decline.

**On a Knife Edge – The Survival of the Iberian Lynx**
Early this century, the Iberian lynx was on the verge of extinction, with a population of about 150 in just two areas in Spain. But then came the first successful captive breeding program, with a lynx named Saliega. Her first litter marked the start of a campaign to reintroduce this small, wild-rabbit-hunting species of lynx to other regions across the Iberian Peninsula.

**Mexico: Rescue Team for Sea Lions**
All too often, sea lions in Mexico become entangled in fishing nets. Although they are usually able to free themselves, many sustain serious injuries or can’t shake off pieces of net around their tail or fins, and then die a painful death. A team of vets and other experts set out to catch such endangered sea lions and conduct life-saving operations.
Freedom not Captivity – Goldfinches in Algeria
Goldfinches are popular pets in Algeria. Captured in the wild, they end up in cages in living rooms across the country – and in such numbers that they’ve become a rare sight out in nature. Conservationists appreciate their compatriots’ fondness for goldfinches, but they want to reduce the demand for wild specimens to ensure that goldfinches don’t disappear altogether.
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Otters Challenged by Climate Change
Eurasian otters are small, agile, and hunt fish. They need clean rivers and lakes framed by natural vegetation, something that’s becoming increasingly rare as industrial farming and urban development spread. Although the species is widespread from North Africa to East Asia, it’s under threat in many regions. Targeted protection projects are often successful. But the Eurasian otter is facing a new, powerful threat in the form of climate change.
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Saving the Sea Turtles of the Adriatic
Many species of sea turtle are on the list of animals facing extinction. The loggerhead turtle is considered vulnerable. Specimens often get caught up in fishing nets in the Mediterranean. Fishermen in an area of southeastern Italy can now alert a local conservationist when this happens, and he will collect the injured turtles and take them to the veterinary clinic at the University of Bari for a check-up before returning them to the waters of the Adriatic.
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR
Wildlife Shorts

As individual clips or mini series, our Wildlife Shorts feature evocative images to tell fascinating stories about animals, plants and the environment. Important issues and intriguing protagonists are a hallmark of these reports from and about the natural world.

The Serengeti
Since the 1960s, animal welfare activists have been fighting for the survival of the Serengeti, one of Africa’s most complex eco-systems, which extends from the north of Tanzania to the southwest of Kenya. In the language of the native Maasai, the word ‘Serengeti’ means “endless plains”. But climate change, population growth and poaching are endangering the land and the many species of animals living there. A team from the German Zoological Society in Frankfurt is working to preserve and protect the Serengeti National Park in Tanzania.

The World of Wild Animals

214827 001 Big Five
214827 002 The Importance of the Gnu
214827 003 Hot Air Balloon Flight
214827 004 On Safari
214827 005 In the Shadow of the Stars

The Savanna in Crisis

214827 006 The Threat from Poaching
214827 007 Man and Beast in Conflict
214827 008 Tourists – A Blessing and a Curse
214827 009 The Climate is Changing

Saving the Serengeti

214827 010 Herdsmen and Protectors
214827 011 Pilot in the Serengeti
214827 012 Microcredits not Poaching
214827 013 On the Lion’s Trail
214827 014 Observing the Rhino
Indonesia’s Orangutans
They have human names like Dora, Suro or Jackie. They also behave very like humans, as they explore their habitat, the rainforests of the Indonesian island of Sumatra, with child-like curiosity. Everything is new for the orangutans, even though they are not babies. In fact, if they could talk, Dora, Suro, Jackie and all the others would have quite a few stories to tell. The animals are aged between 5 and 19 and have spent considerable lengths of time in captivity, as pets or as objects of prestige. Now, in their jungle school, they must learn to survive in the wild.

My Favorite
When asked what their favorite animal is, most people think of dogs, cats or horses. But stingrays, sponges and cattle also have their fans. Often, people with a rather unusual favorite are doing something to protect that species: all over the world, nature conservationists are doing their bit for animals – counting and examining them, nurturing the young in breeding centers, or campaigning against poaching, pollution and climate change. Their enthusiasm is infectious and inspires hope that it is perhaps not yet too late for the fascinating creatures of which they are so fond.
Humans have made the earth their playground. Unspoilt habitats fall victim to merciless exploitation, cleared or ravaged for things it is believed we cannot live without. But we are all part of nature and cannot survive without it. More and more people are realising that the environment is more than just a supplier of cheap and abundant materials. Many are getting involved in nature conservation projects. Some dedicate their fortune, others their time; some even risk their lives. Their aim is the same: to preserve our planet’s biodiversity for the future. These people are Guardians of Nature.

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264723 014
Safe Passage for Elephants
Botswana is home to about 130,000 elephants – and that’s putting an environmental and economic strain on the human population. Many of the animals originate from regions in Namibia and Angola affected by civil war. Now they are retracing their steps through densely populated areas. Ecologist Mike Chase is trying to establish conservation enclaves that link Botswana with other elephant habitats.

Documentary, 30 min., 2011, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

264723 015
Saving the Elbe Floodplain
The floodplain of the River Elbe was once an open expanse of meadowland rich in flora and fauna. It was sustained by the grazing habits of large herbivores such as wild horses, wisent and aurochs. Today these areas are monocultures, or have been lost to forest encroachment. Andreas Wenk has now introduced a descendant of the extinct aurochs to the Elbe Valley floodplain.

Documentary, 30 min., 2011, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

264723 018
The Rain Forest Academy
Man’s voracious appetite for natural resources is threatening the lands and the way of life of the indigenous tribes of the Amazon Basin. In Ecuador, the Amazonica Academy, founded by publisher Mascha Kauka, aims to help the Indio peoples live with modern technology and in harmony with nature. Education and exchange programs should help the inhabitants of the region secure longterm sources of income.

Documentary, 30 min., 2011, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; IFE, LR

264723 020
Rehabilitating Baboons
Baboons often raid houses and gardens in South Africa, and that makes them unpopular there. Rita Miljo looks after baboons whose parents have been killed. At her center on the edge of the Kruger National Park, the animals live in groups and are prepared for their reintroduction to the wild – far from houses, roads and people.

Documentary, 30 min., 2011, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
264723 022
**Saving the Snow Leopard**
Snow leopards live in mountainous regions of Central Asia. They are hunted by poachers for their fur and killed by shepherds who drive their flocks to higher altitudes and encroach upon the leopards’ habitat. In Kyrgyzstan, biologist Thorsten Harder is leading a project to protect snow leopards – in cooperation with an anti-poaching squad who are risking their lives on behalf of the endangered animals.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2012, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR**

264723 024
**Beautiful, Rare – Soon to Be Extinct?**
The Banggai cardinalfish lives in a very small area off the Indonesian island of Sulawesi. It is a popular ornamental fish, and up to a third of the wild population is captured every year. Conservationist Yani Mile wants to stop the Banggai cardinalfish from becoming the first species to die out because of its popularity in the aquarium trade.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2012, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR**

264723 026
**Battling the Illegal Bird Hunt**
Most types of songbird and birds of prey are protected in many European countries. But on their annual migration between Europe and warmer climes in Africa, many birds are being illegally shot on the Mediterranean island of Malta. Bird protection groups from all over Europe are trying to put a stop to the practice.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2012, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR**
Global Ideas

Melting polar caps, devastating hurricanes, and rising sea levels. The changes ascribed to climate change are disheartening to say the least. Our series Global Ideas features people across the world who are pursuing innovative projects to counter global warming. To reduce greenhouse gases, maintain biodiversity, provide food for thought, and promote effective action – these are the goals of the projects we profile. We present initiatives that are exemplary in character and creative in approach. Each show has four reports. All the projects are “best practice” models, featuring ideas worthy of emulation.

SAMPLE EPISODE 1 | 30 MINUTE VERSION

Colombia – Guardians of the Andean Bear
The spectacled bear is native to the Andes. But poaching, rapid urban growth and increasing deforestation in Colombia have been forcing the animal to look for new habitats. A sanctuary offers some protection.

Albania – Building a Future at Home
For generations, many small farmers and their families living in the mountains of Albania have reared sheep and sold milk for a living. But now young people often leave home in search of better prospects. An environmental NGO wants to encourage them to stay by helping them establish sustainable livelihoods.

Mexico – Reviving Old Farming Practices
Many farmers in the La Sepultura biosphere reserve in southern Mexico keep livestock. But their methods have left the local forests badly damaged. The project BioPaSOS encourages the farmers to switch to more sustainable livestock farming practices that protect woodland and biodiversity.

Ghana – Cocoa Farmers Struggle to Survive
Ghana is the world’s second largest cocoa exporter. But small farmers are suffering because illegal logging destroys tall trees that provide their plants with shade. Now there’s an app that lets them alert authorities to illegal activities. Small loans are also available to help them get through difficult periods.
Mozambique – Legalizing Gold Prospecting
Illegal prospectors at the Chimanimani National Park in Mozambique are damaging the environment. In their quest for gold and precious stones, they often chop down trees and contaminate the water with toxic mercury. So, the provincial government has started a program to help miners set up their own, legal and eco-friendly mining cooperatives.

Dominican Republic – Tourism Industry Reduces Plastic Waste
The Dominican Republic markets itself as a tropical island paradise of white-sand beaches and blue ocean. Yet mass tourism produces heaps of plastic waste. Now Eddy Rosado from the UN Environment Program is helping the tourism industry clean up its act.

South Africa – Tax Breaks for Nature Conservation
Financial expert Candice Stevens shows South Africa’s landowners how turning their holdings into protected areas can cut their tax bill and protect the environment. She and her NGO Wilderness Foundation Africa have transformed 500,000 hectares into nature reserves.

Indonesia – Leather from Mushrooms
Adi Reza Nugroho’s startup, Mycotech, makes fabric out of mushrooms. The fungi grow on a substrate of locally sourced organic waste. The mycelium leather produced in Bandung, on Indonesia’s main island Java, is vegan and eco-friendly. It’s already being used to make shoes.
SAMPLE EPISODE 3 | 30 MINUTE VERSION

**Ghana – Sustainable Sugar Cane Cultivation**
The sugar cane industry in Ghana has been in crisis for years. Farmers use chemicals, and burn crop residues in the fields, destroying the soil. In addition, climate change means less and less rain. Ghanaian Audrey S-Darko wants to convince farmers to adapt cultivation methods that improve harvests and protect the environment.

**Colombia – Pablo Escobar’s Hippos**
The Río Magdalena in the province of Antioquia is the home of Dona Chavita. She offers tourist trips for people want to see something truly unique: Hippos. Not in Africa, but in Colombia. The animals’ presence is a legacy of the drug lord Pablo Escobar. And unfortunately, they are a problem.

**Maldives – Sea Grass Protects Islands and the Climate**
A valuable ecosystem lies on the Maldives’ seabed: seagrass beds. Once threatened, they are now being studied and protected. In the fight against climate change, they are valuable reservoirs for carbon dioxide. They also protect the islands from erosion.

**Namibia/Botswana – Oil Exploration Threatens the Okavango Delta**
The Okavango Delta is a unique natural paradise in southern Africa. But it is threatened. A Canadian company is drilling for oil and gas on the Okavango River in Namibia – in the middle of a protected area. Local residents and conservationists are alarmed.
Contaminated Ground – Industry’s Toxic Legacy

At many industrial sites, environmental disasters of dangerous proportions are often only revealed years after the plants have closed their doors. The soil on such sites can be contaminated to a depth of several metres, with heavy metals, solvents, and other chemicals turning some sites into a polluted quagmire. It is not uncommon for the groundwater to be affected as well, which in turn can pose a substantial threat to local biotopes and people who reside in contaminated areas. That’s why scientists and geologists are now looking into various ways of remediating hazardous sites. Their methods include classic soil exchange, detoxification through plants, and employing physical processes in state-of-the-art ways to clean up the waste.
The Global Climate Crisis

In many regions of the world, flooding is a recurring phenomenon that people have more or less learned to live with. But recent years have seen an increase in the frequency of catastrophic, extreme weather events far beyond the norm.

In Africa, Mozambique was hit by disastrous floods for the third year in a row. In Europe, the summer of 2021 was especially bad for western Germany. In Asia, although accustomed to deluges, low-lying areas of Bangladesh experienced their worst monsoon flooding in years in 2020.

How are people on the ground responding to the increasingly dramatic effects of climate change? What measures are being adopted by specialists and authorities in the Mozambican city of Beira, the western German Ahr valley and the Bangladeshi capital Dhaka in preparation for future extreme weather events? How do those affected manage to get back on their feet after a devastating flood? Can the problem be solved by investing in flood defenses, warning systems or assistance for flood victims? Or are these events a sign that the issue of climate protection must be taken more seriously?
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Founders’ Valley
How Asia’s Startups Founders Work on Innovative and Inspiring Solutions

Award-winning German entrepreneur Fridtjof Detzner sets off to look for people with visionary ideas across Asia. He meets with start-up founders and activists who work on innovative and inspiring solutions to pressing problems: artificial ice-stupas fighting climate change, revolutionary materials to save the world’s oceans, smart apps to fight hunger ...

Of course, entrepreneurship isn’t always glorious. It requires a ton of sacrifice and total dedication. We also show the challenges founders need to overcome as well as the troubles and opportunities in a digitized and globalized world. Showcasing unique characters, their stories and the solutions to some of the world’s most intractable issues that they offer, we feel the pulse of the Asian start-up ecosystem and what makes it so special. Come meet people and companies working on innovative and inspiring solutions in Founders’ Valley.
Bangladesh: Worlds of Work
In Bangladesh, one of the world’s poorest countries, Fridtjof encounters brutal working conditions and meets optimistic founders seeking to move their country forward.
Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; English; WW, VoD, M, IFE

Indonesia: Sacred Water – Scarce Water
Bali, the ‘island of holy water’, is running out of clean water. Founders there help remote communities gain access to the valuable resource and urge facilities for tourists to use water more frugally.
Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; English; WW, VoD, M, IFE

India: Drowning in Plastic
India is drowning in plastic waste. Fridtjof meets with visionary founders who want to address the country’s pollution crisis and are fighting for a cleaner India.
Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; English; WW, VoD, M, IFE

India: The Climate Challenge
As India seeks to address the problem, more and more entrepreneurs there are coming up with ideas to tackle climate change before it’s too late.
Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; English; WW, VoD, M, IFE
ECONOMICS

How Asia’s Startups Drive Digital Change

Technological and digital advances are bringing disruptive and transformative changes that will impact every aspect of our lives. Industry, governments and civil society are trying to anticipate how the pace and scale of these developments will change the way our world works, and tackle the challenges ahead.

Startups are among the main drivers of digital transformation. In season two of Founders’ Valley, female entrepreneurs from Germany travel throughout Asia to meet inspiring entrepreneurs and see how their ideas are changing the planet.

Founders’ Valley presents inspiring founders and innovative solutions for a digitized future.

064901 011 South Korea – Driven to Succeed
Korea’s education system is ruled by competition. With suicide being the No.1 cause of death among teenagers, it’s been argued the system produces overachieving students who pay a high price in health and happiness. Digitization could bring about a change to Korea’s overheated education system.
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; English; WW, VoD, M, IFE

064901 013 Philippines – The Dream of New Money
The 2008 financial crisis spread distrust in banks and sped up the acceptance of new kinds of money. Cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin now promise to provide transparent, democratic alternatives. Startups in the Philippines are disrupting old structures.
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; English; WW, VoD, M, IFE

064901 012 Thailand – In Data We Trust
Everything we do in the digital world involves data. The bits and bytes can serve our interests or be used against us. But without digital trust there can be no digital business. How do startups deal with personal data and cybersecurity?
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; English; WW, VoD, M, IFE

064901 014 Indonesia – Women Breaking Bounds
All over the globe, digital transformation is opening new paths for women. In Indonesia, more and more women are taking the opportunities for independence it offers to open a business. But how do the young founders cope with the challenges posed by the role? All have had to overcome hurdles thrown up by traditional structures, widely accepted clichés and investors who prefer to bet on men.
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; English; WW, VoD, M, IFE

064901 015 India – Breaking Silence: Ending Violence
In India, public outrage over violence against women has reached fever pitch. Entrepreneurs are no longer willing to let the devastating violations go unchallenged – and so they’re trying to create safer cities with technology.
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; English; WW, VoD, M, IFE
Forward to the Future

Millennials around the world are set to be the most highly educated generation to date. They’re a generation characterized by talent, innovation, an overwhelming desire for social change, and a powerful entrepreneurial spirit. At the same time, young people today face huge global challenges, including the threat posed by climate change, ongoing geopolitical crises and rising inequality. But as more and more millennials pursue education and job opportunities across borders, they develop global perspectives – and are poised to design a more inclusive world.

In the third season of Founders’ Valley, we meet with young social entrepreneurs in Asia working on social innovations that mirror the hopes of their generation. The episodes are hosted by Bianca Praetorius, who advises founders worldwide. She meets Asian entrepreneurs who strive for nothing less than a fairer world.

Founders’ Valley – Forward to the Future shows the way there.

064901  017
Malaysia – Humanity on the Move
A vast majority of undocumented migrants work in so-called “3D jobs” – dirty, dangerous and demeaning. Millions live a life without any prospects. We meet entrepreneurs in Malaysia who are trying to give migrants back their dignity. Foreign workers contribute more than a third to Malaysia’s gross domestic product; they help shape the country’s economy and society. However, undocumented migrants tend to exist outside the formal infrastructure. Most of them work in low-skilled jobs in miserable conditions, often existing on the margins of society. Startup founders are helping improve the lives of migrants in Malaysia.
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; English; WW, VoD, M, IFE

064901  018
Indonesia – Our Wounded Planet
An entire generation of young people is rejecting the idea of unlimited economic growth on a planet with finite resources. Among them are social entrepreneurs in Indonesia looking for ways to do business that don’t harm the environment. The poles are melting. Sea levels are rising. Dozens of species go extinct every day. Environmental migration is already happening on a vast scale. It’s long past time to admit that the biggest threat humanity faces is climate change. Indonesian entrepreneurs are trying to alter the rules of the game. They’re determined to run profitable businesses that are part of the solution, rather than part of the problem. We desperately need new sustainable concepts in business – but can humanity change?
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; English; WW, VoD, M, IFE

064901  016
Nepal – The Price of Poverty
When it comes to happiness, people’s dreams and desires are the same all over the world: a steady income, good health and opportunities for personal development. But those who come from poor backgrounds barely have a chance. Inequality begins in childhood. At what point is the course of someone’s life set? How can disadvantaged people guard against false promises? Who can they turn to for help? We meet three founders of social ventures. They want to overcome the barriers in society and are committed to creating equal opportunities and promoting social justice. Poverty means not only a low income, but above all a lack of opportunities to shape one’s own life and to advance in society. Many do not succeed in this on their own but need support.
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; English; WW, VoD, M, IFE
Inside Economics

Every day we hear about what is supposedly good or bad for the economy. But what exactly is “the economy”? Major players may feel remote, and economic principles obscure, but in fact we are all economic agents and part of the system ourselves. We may imagine economic developments are happening somewhere “out there”, but in fact we are in the midst of them the entire time. How do they affect our lives? What happens on the financial markets? What do free trade agreements mean for us? We look for the answers to such questions in Inside Economics.

064873
Documentary,
04 x 30 min.,
Arabic, English, Spanish

02 x 30 min.,
Russian

064873 002
A World in the Red
The world’s industrialized nations are 55 trillion Euros in debt. Many are slashing public budgets as a result, although this does little to get the situation under control. Combined with speculative financial markets that dominate the economy, this represents a danger to prosperity, society and democracy. A world mired in debt is not a natural phenomenon, but rather the consequence of an unfettered financial sector and many bad decisions.
Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

064873 003
Free Trade – Pledges and Reality
Many countries have signed up to international free-trade agreements. They are sold as engines of prosperity, generating jobs and investment. But is that the way it really is? And if they do enhance prosperity, whose prosperity is it? Who benefits? Ordinary people or large corporations? NAFTA, the trade agreement in place between the US, Canada and Mexico, offers some interesting insights.
Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

064873 004
Warning: High-Frequency Trading
Traders on the world’s stock exchanges are not always people. These days, it is often computers, placing orders in a flash on the basis of sophisticated algorithms. One strategy seeks to exploit even tiny price fluctuations to turn a profit. This kind of trading carries a multitude of risks and could potentially trigger market crashes.
Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

064873 005
Offshore Business – A Gray Area
Offshore companies are simple to set up, and international law firms can use them to spin complex networks to obscure ownership and “optimize” tax liabilities. Many well-known banks have been only too keen to handle their business. Offshore companies are a major industry in a number of low-tax or no-tax countries. It is not usually illegal to own one. Using them to avoid tax or conceal identities can be. How do offshore companies work? How do criminals use them to their benefit?
Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
Tricks of the Trade

Whenever we buy something – in the supermarket, the shopping mall or online – we participate in a market, local or global. But do we make intelligent decisions when we part with our money? And what are the consequences for the environment, our own health and that of the workers toiling to make the products we buy? Only the well-informed can make responsible purchase decisions, though some manufacturers would prefer us all to be blissfully ignorant: For them, an awful lot of money is at stake. That is why they often declare crucial facts about their products only when forced to by law. And marketing strategies can often amount to perfidious manipulation. But a sustainable economy needs informed and critical consumers. We reveal some of the Tricks of the Trade.

064814 011
Pesticides in Tea – A Bitter Aftertaste
Tea is the world’s second most popular beverage after water, and Kenya is one of the world’s largest growers of tea. Few tea drinkers realize that on many plantations pesticides are used; that is something the industry does not talk much about. The pesticides endanger the health of plantation workers and also leave traces in the final product.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

064814 013
Sweet Seduction – The Sugar Drug
Sugar makes you happy, but also fuels a craving for more. Food manufacturers exploit this fact to their own ends. Commercials make enticing offers: the bigger the pack, the better the price! Product labels often conceal the true sugar content.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

064814 014
The Likes Business – Advertising in Social Media
Social media platforms don’t only bring people together – they are also, perhaps first and foremost, powerful advertising tools. For businesses, politicians and celebrities it can be hugely important to increase the numbers of followers, friends or “likes”. In order to do this, they use sophisticated marketing strategies. Or they simply buy their “fans”.
Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

064814 015
The Online Dating Love Trap
Online dating sites are booming: More and more lonesome souls are searching for a partner online, and are prepared to pay for the service. But there can be nasty surprises in store: many dating sites use fake profiles. And criminals are also being drawn to the online love business by the promise of a quick profit.
Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; LR
The Global Tomato Trade

The unassuming tomato has become a profitable and competitive item on the global market. The world's largest producer is China, although the country itself has very few tomato consumers. Tomato purée from China is marketed in packaging to make it look like it comes from Italy. Some of these products contain additives that push down price and quality. Without clear labelling requirements manufacturers will continue to use tricks like these, and the exploitation of harvesters and the displacement of smallholders will remain a problem.

Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Second-Hand Clothes: The Donation Business

In Europe, vast amounts of clothing are bought and frequently disposed of after just a few months. Often the clothing is dumped in containers to be distributed to the poor – or at least that’s what most donors believe. But 98 per cent of these items are fueling a globally-active, profit-orientated industry. In Tunisia, for example. There, second-hand clothes are sorted and then sold or recycled. Some of the items even find their way back to the countries where they were first discarded – to be sold as vintage fashion pieces in chic second-hand boutiques.

Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

The Diet Deception

Have you ever tried unsuccessfully to shed those extra kilos by dieting? And was your wallet the only thing lighter at the end of it all? There are all kinds of weight-loss products on the market, many of them claiming their effectiveness is scientifically proven. Using a fake “chocolate diet”, two journalists show how easy it is to manipulate scientific studies to deliver the desired outcome.

Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Ready Meals – Instant Temptation

When people are in a hurry, they often opt for a ready meal. There’s a huge variety to choose from, and food technicians are working constantly to improve taste and quality. The blend of fats and carbohydrates is finely tuned to impact the internal reward system of the diner. This has little to do with healthy eating – and much more to do with fat profits for the food industry.

Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Back in Fashion – The Resurgence of the Fur Industry

For a long while, many people regarded fur as an ethical fashion taboo. The fur industry responded by claiming that fur is a “sustainable natural product” and by creating its own certification to back it up. It also focused on selling more small fur accessories instead of fur coats. The strategy has paid off, with customers reporting fewer ethical concerns over the purchase of fur. For the animals that bear the precious fur however, nothing has changed.

Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR
Cruises: The Uncomfortable Facts
The cruise boom continues apace, with promises of luxury and holidays of a lifetime. But the business of realizing dreams has a massive dark side. Quite apart from the liners’ very high pollutant emission levels, crew members are frequently the victims of what’s being dubbed “sweat ship” exploitation. A high-gloss world that’s beginning to show cracks, which could in turn herald a new era in fair and environmentally-friendly cruise ship tourism.
Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Fast Food: Double Standards for Health
Many major food manufacturers and fast food suppliers in Europe and other western states pledge to act responsibly when it comes to consumers’ health. They offer products with no or very little added sugar and no preservatives, artificial colorings or flavorings. They don’t actively promote sweetened soft drinks, include water as a fast food meal option and refrain from targeting children in their advertising. But in less wealthy markets, for example in South America or Asia, it’s a very different story. Here, recipes contain significantly higher levels of salt, sugar and other harmful substances. And even in wealthier nations, manufacturers are finding ways to circumvent their own commitments, primarily to appeal to children.
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Slow vs Fast Fashion
Fashion is a fickle beast. Manufacturers bring as many as 12 collections to market each year; more than 100 billion items of clothing are made globally every year. Faster, cheaper and in ever greater volumes: “Fast Fashion” is booming. The impact and the downsides make familiar reading: workforces in low-wage countries are exploited; production and shipping require astronomical amounts of water and energy, leaving a large carbon footprint; and 62 million tons of clothing are cleared out of the world’s wardrobes every year - 80% of which ends up in landfill. The “Slow Fashion” movement aims to counter this trend, and it’s finding more and more adherents. The movement encourages consumers to buy fewer, high-quality garments and aims to come up with some new ideas – for fashion with a future.
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Weather as a Commodity
Sectors such as agriculture and logistics, but also insurance and tourism rely on weather forecasts. And even the average media consumer likes to know if it’s going to rain or snow the following day. Weather data and their dissemination have therefore become a lucrative commodity; the range of services more diverse. But what does this mean for the quality of the forecasts themselves?
Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; IFE, LR

Meat with Side-Effects
Sodium nitrate makes food look good, which means it’s good for the sale of industrially processed meat products, but probably bad for consumers’ health: the WHO has classified it as carcinogenic. But the meat industry is afraid of a sales drop without it, and the additive is still widely used. A vociferous lobby and dubious scientific practices are helping the industry to deny the health risks associated with the consumption of meat.
Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

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Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
FSC – Greenwashing Illegal Timber
The Forest Stewardship Council was founded to create an international system for certifying sustainable wood. The non-profit organization allows companies that manufacture environmentally-sound forest products, primarily wood and its derivatives such as furniture and paper, to mark their goods with the FSC seal of approval. The seal is intended to reassure consumers that they can buy the products with a good conscience. But critics say the certification scheme is failing. For example, the seal is being used by companies processing illegally logged wood from primeval forests. A quarter of a century after the FSC was founded, virgin forests are still rapidly disappearing and indigenous communities continue to be displaced. Is an eco-certification enough to stop the deforestation juggernaut?

Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Does Price Have Gender?
Pink is a color for girls, blue for boys – this would appear to be an unwritten law in many parts of the world. But this color allocation is neither natural nor traditional. It’s actually an expression of a growing phenomenon: gender marketing. This is aimed at selling more products by dividing the market. As well as cementing gender clichés, gender marketing also means women often end up paying more than men for products of similar value. The most extreme examples can be found in the fashion and cosmetics industries, but price differences even extend to toys and services such as haircuts. It’s been dubbed the ‘pink tax’ – but does it have anything to do with our societal norms? And what can consumers do about it?

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Consuming with a Conscience
Many people like to shop with a clear conscience and try to choose products accordingly. After all, farming and industry supply chains often leave much to be desired. Increasingly, savvy consumers are reaching for organic eggs, fair-trade chocolate or clothing that’s produced without child labor. In response, more companies now claim sustainable, climate-neutral credentials and say they’re striving to improve the working conditions of all those involved in the manufacture of their products. More and more of us are ready to pay more for goods backed by such pledges. But can we believe all the promises? Is it really possible to suddenly increase ethical production in the face of exploding demand? Or is this just about companies profiting from our bad conscience?

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR
175 Years of Zeiss
The Rise of a Global Company

175 years ago, the young mechanic Carl Zeiss opened a small workshop for precision mechanics and optics. These humble beginnings in the German city of Jena were the foundation of the Zeiss technology company, which today operates worldwide.

The production of glass with game-changing optical properties was one of the developments that helped Carl Zeiss create a company that valued scientific research highly, while never forgetting science’s social impact. Zeiss microscopes have been used by more than 30 Nobel Prize winners. To this day, these instruments offer unrivaled image resolution, with lenses that can display structures one thousand times smaller than a human hair. Light microscopes allow living cells to be examined with extreme gentleness and speed.

The Zeiss company was involved in the moon landing in 1969, and thus helped redefine the limits of what humans are capable of. Images of the historic event were captured using Zeiss camera lenses developed specially for space. These lenses were key to the later development of photolithography, which plays a decisive role in the production of microchips. Developments in extreme ultraviolet lithography led to Zeiss winning the German Future Prize together with the Fraunhofer Institute and the Trumpf company.

The DW documentary delves into history of the Zeiss company and also examines current developments in the photonics sector, in which the firm is a key player.
Farming for the Planet

Agriculture is under pressure to feed a burgeoning global population. And it has undergone dramatic developments in this regard over the last 100 years. But increasing industrialization of the sector has negative consequences: it burdens the environment and replaces manpower with technology, providing fewer people with a livelihood. If these developments continue unchecked, then before long the food we eat will be controlled by large corporations, and food markets will be geared towards short-term profit – at the expense of non-renewable resources such as land and water, at the expense of the rural population and biodiversity. But this is not the only way forward. Sustainable agricultural approaches and an efficient smallholding economy can in the long term create equilibrium between food security and the utilization of natural resources. There are examples of this all over the world, pursued by people who are Farming for the Planet.

064858
Documentary,
23 x 30 min.,
Arabic, English,
Spanish

064858 002 Species-Appropriate Cattle Breeding
Industrially produced cattle yield plenty of milk and meat. But these high-performance animals are vulnerable and have poor genetic potential. Cattle reared in a manner appropriate to their species are more robust, live longer and healthier lives and yield better-quality products.

Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

064858 003 Fish Without the Side Effects
Many fish stocks are endangered through overfishing and marine pollution. Fish farms are also rarely sustainable and actually exacerbate the problem. But there are alternative approaches – and valuable traditional practices.

Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

064858 004 Time for Changes in Tea Production
The Indian district of Darjeeling is famous for its tea plantations. But the effects of soil exhaustion and erosion on the steep slopes where the plants grow are taking their toll. One tea producer has found a solution: his biodynamic, fair-trade approach is proving to be a success.

Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

064858 005 For the Survival of Bees
There’s been a sharp spike in honey-bee deaths in many parts of the world. But the insects are essential for the fertilization of many crops. What is the connection between the collapse of bee colonies and farming? What can farmers do to stop the dying?

Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR
Lentils: The Ideal Crop for a Hotter Planet?
Lentils thrive especially well in arid regions and store nitrogen from the air in root nodules. This means growing them is a natural way to fertilize the soil. Lentils are also very nutritious. That’s why they are the subject of intensive research, to optimize industrial cultivation as well as integrate them into smallholders’ crop rotation schedules. It’s hoped that growing more lentils will both counteract climate change and malnutrition.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

The “Post-Fossil” Farming Movement
The agriculture industry consumes a huge amount of fossil resources, for example in the form of fuel and fertilizer. But a number of promising approaches are preparing for a “post-fossil” culture – and not just in farming. The movement aims to equip both cities and rural areas for the dual challenge presented by climate change and dwindling resources by enhancing self-sufficiency and cooperation.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR

Biodiversity and Agriculture – A Fruitful Coexistence
Intensive farming often produces food to the detriment of biodiversity. Farmers practice monocropping over increasingly large areas of cultivated land. In Europe, long-term studies point to a worrying decline in insect species – a complex process that’s difficult to halt. And this despite the fact that around half of global economic output depends on intact ecosystems. New ideas and concepts show that coexistence between intensive farming and biodiversity is not only possible, it can also be mutually beneficial.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Digital Food
The digitalization of agriculture continues apace. Many startups use funding mechanisms, intelligent technologies and big data in future-oriented food production. The new concepts range from bridging the transition phase from conventional to organic farming and the application of technology for greenhouses through to minimizing losses in food production chains. These and other developments can help to provide a growing global population with sustainably produced and healthy food – that also tastes good.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
Regreening the Planet
For decades now, we’ve been losing vast tracts of arable land worldwide – and the arable land itself has been losing its fertility. This is due to land repurposing, logging, slash-and-burn farming and harmful farming methods that promote erosion and deplete the soil. But agriculture can also play a part in reversing soil degradation. This benefits biodiversity and nature, but also the economy and the lives of people in affected areas.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Vertical Farming
A lot of food is produced far away from the people who eat it in processes that use vast amounts of water and raw materials. Distribution is often so inefficient that large amounts of produce perish, while people in other places go hungry. One solution would be to grow food in or close to cities – vertically to limit land usage. The practice has already been tried and tested. Vertical farming technologies are eco-friendly, resilient to weather conditions and produce higher crop yields than conventional methods. If used in conjunction with other sustainability strategies, the approach could help to solve our food supply problems.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

On the Rooftops of Paris – Food from Next Door
The famous grey zinc roofs of Paris are getting greener. Vegetables, herbs, fruit, hops: all of them now grown on city rooftops – for the world-famous haute cuisine of the gourmet metropolis, but also for local markets, research purposes, education and as part of local neighborhood projects. The top-quality, fresh, sustainably produced food from next door isn’t just appreciated by discerning restaurant chefs. Urban farming practices in Europe’s most densely populated city aim for quality not quantity.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Turning Back Time – Biodiversity in the Alps
Europe’s Alpine region is an ecosystem that’s diverse but also fragile. The area’s biodiversity – and the livelihoods that depend on it – are under threat from urbanization, mass tourism, climate change and industrial farming. To counter this trend, a new generation of Alpine farmers are reverting to traditional techniques, planting ancient crops and breeding indigenous livestock. With innovative schemes and an effective international network, the farmers are battling to preserve the region’s biodiversity.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Savvy Farmers – The Value of Agricultural Knowhow
In many parts of the world industrial, fossil-fuel-based farming has swamped small-scale agricultural practices – and the knowledge that goes with them. But it’s precisely this kind of knowhow concerning the rhythms of nature, passed down through generations, that can safeguard sustainable food production methods and protect their fundamentals – fertile soil and species diversity. Against the backdrop of this realization, more and more farmers – in industrialized nations too – are finding new confidence and successfully practicing approaches such as allowing calves to remain with their mothers, agroforestry, breeding dual-purpose chickens and cultivating thousands of tomato varieties.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
Seeds for the Future
Deep in the permafrost on the island of Spitsbergen in the Arctic Ocean is the world's largest seed bank, the Global Seed Vault. Since 2007, the independent international organization the Global Crop Diversity Trust has been storing billions of agricultural crop seeds from all over the world. The project's aim is to conserve the world's crop diversity, secure the world's food supply in the event of a catastrophe – as well as protect the independence of global farming in the face of agricultural industry patents. The “father” of the project, the farmer and agronomist Cary Fowler, is a tireless ambassador for the mission, even in retirement.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

The Power of Community – For Sustainable Farming
Travelling abroad as a young man, the agricultural engineer and farmer’s son Rudolf Bühler gained first-hand knowledge of the situation facing farmers in Africa, Syria and Bangladesh. He realized that if smallholders pursuing sustainable farming are to stand a chance in the face of industrial farming, they need to work together. Back in Germany, in 1988 he founded an agricultural producers’ organization, which today has more than 1,500 members. Bühler campaigns for farmers’ rights around the world and for sustainable, organic farming – as an adviser to the United Nations, in conflicts with the farming industry, and in partnership with groups such as India’s pepper growers.

Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR

From the Garden of the Sea – Seaweed Farmers in Europe
Although 70 per cent of the Earth's surface is covered by water, overall only a small fraction of our food comes from the sea. Seaweed is, however, a foodstuff that's both nutritious and sustainable. While it has been on the menu in parts of eastern Asia for millennia, in other regions the idea is still catching on. Along the coast of Norway, where the waters are often very clear and nutrient-rich, the seaweed growing business is gradually gaining momentum.

Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR

Back to Basics – Kenyan Agriculture Responds to Climate Change
While northern Kenya is gripped by drought, farmers in the fertile west of the country struggle to cope with increasingly unpredictable weather. In both regions, climate change means farmers and cattleherders are facing new challenges. The Kenyan food scientist Ruth Oniang’o promotes the cultivation of nutritious and climate-resilient indigenous crops to ensure food security and is calling for a shift away from importing maize. Cattle-herders in the north are moving to Lake Turkana in the desert in a bid to survive by catching fish.

Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR

Productivity and Animal Welfare – The Modern Dairy Cow
Pricing pressure has been forcing dairy farmers in Germany and Switzerland to rear larger, more productive cows. But this is bad for the animals’ health. While some farmers throw in the towel, others are reverting to smaller cows or trying to balance animal welfare and enhancing productivity. It’s an issue that agronomists at a German research institute are seeking to address: Opportunities for natural behavior and activities are important for dairy cows' wellbeing and yield.

Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR

From Curse to Blessing – Aquaculture in the Floodplains of Bangladesh
Large swathes of Bangladesh and its farmland are flooded every year during the monsoon season. In one of the worst-hit regions, an NGO has developed a program whereby farmers switch between paddy and pond, and earn a living part of the year from aquaculture. This seasonal solution also improves conditions for growing rice the rest of the year, by reducing the presence of weeds and parasites and enriching the soil with natural nutrients. But where this is being practiced, tensions have emerged, as has the potential for conflicts over land and access to freshwater.

Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR
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Guardians of Truth

DW’s series follows Can Dündar as he meets other Guardians of Truth – activists, journalists and politicians – exiles like him forced out of their homelands. He investigates their struggles as they make new lives for themselves while pursuing their dangerous quest for truth. He talks to them about their motivations and the personal cost of speaking out against authoritarian politics.

Can Dündar’s personal history allows a unique insight into the lives and minds of these fighters for democracy and freedom. In Erdoğan’s Turkey, Can Dündar has been regarded as ‘Public Enemy No. 1’ ever since he exposed illegal arms shipments by the Turkish government to Syria back in 2015. Declared as a terrorist by Turkey’s President and threatened with imprisonment, Can Dündar survived an assassination attempt and fled to Germany.

Dündar meets the journalist Anabel Hernández, who’s been investigating drug-related crime and corruption in Mexico for more than 20 years, publishing numerous books and articles on the subject. She is best-known for highlighting close links between the government and the drug clans – groundbreaking research that almost cost her her life. Luckily, she wasn’t at home on the day 11 armed men showed up to shoot her dead. She knew then that she would have to leave her home country. Not that she doesn’t return from time to time, under tight security, to continue her work and see her family. Can Dündar meets her in exile and then again, during one of these highly dangerous trips back home. He poses the pivotal question: what’s driving her to take this huge risk again and again?

It’s a question that Anabel Hernández grapples with herself. She knows that each time she says goodbye to her family, it could be the final farewell. Whenever she leaves for a research trip to Mexico, she makes sure her son’s documents are prepared and accessible, in case of an “emergency”, she says. Even before he could walk, the little boy has always been accompanied by bodyguards, she adds, almost apologetically. But she also says this: “It’s my homeland, and we journalists are the prosecutors, there’s no independent judiciary, no justice, people have to know what’s happening.”
Can Dündar Meets Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya

Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya has a mission not of her choosing. In 2020, her husband Sergej made the transition from blogger to presidential candidate, standing against the dictator of Belarus, Lukashenko. Like all opponents deemed to be potentially dangerous, he was thrown in jail. In a spontaneous move, his wife Sviatlana declared her own candidacy for the post – and was permitted to run. The dictator didn’t see her as a threat – but Tsikhanouskaya and her team captured the hearts of the people and her popularity levels soared.

When election day came Lukashenko claimed victory with an alleged 80 per cent of the vote, leading hundreds of thousands of people to cry fraud and take to the streets in protest. Tsikhanouskaya received death threats and was forced into exile.

However, her fight against the dictator Lukashenko continues – from Lithuania. Tsikhanouskaya has been received by world leaders and showered with awards. Can Dündar accompanies her on her travels and experiences her struggle to secure freedom for political prisoners, including her husband Sergej. Dündar encounters a woman who, to this day, doesn’t feel totally at ease in her role. How can someone who never wanted power be a leader?
The town of Kupyansk was one of the first places in Ukraine to fall to Russian invaders. Six months later it was recaptured by Ukraine. Left in the ruins of the town, residents are now grappling with questions of guilt and complicity.

No shots were fired when the Russian army occupied Kupyansk. The mayor of the town of 30,000 simply handed it over to advancing Russian troops. But not all citizens were happy with the collaboration. One brave local politician drummed up resistance and organized protests under the Ukrainian flag.

Russia launched a violent crackdown on the rebellion. Anyone daring to speak out against the Russian troops’ presence risked being ‘disappeared’ in the occupiers’ torture chambers. Open resistance was swiftly quashed, driving the movement underground. Meanwhile Russia began implementing its own plans for the town, which became an administrative center for the occupied territories around Kharkiv. The occupation authorities handed out Russian passports and turned Kupyansk into a showcase town for “Russkij Mir” – which can be translated as “Russian world” or “Russian peace”.

Six months later, Ukraine recaptured Kupyansk. Russian troops stationed 10 kilometers from the center exacted revenge by launching almost daily artillery attacks on the town. Many residents fled. But for those who stayed, the question remains: how to carry on after the experiences of the occupation?

This film reconstructs the mechanisms of the occupation with those who lived through it: those who were at some point able to flee, and those who stayed. The documentary hears from residents who collaborated as well as those who resisted, whether openly or in secret. It illustrates a panorama of life under occupation and poses the big questions of guilt and complicity.
Displaced

According to the UN there are now more than 70 million refugees worldwide. The series Displaced focuses on the causes of this historical negative record and tells exemplary stories from different continents.

The documentaries draw attention to questions to which there are only complex answers – for example, about the links between international trade policy and migration, about the effects of the lifestyle of people in the northern hemisphere on their neighbors in the southern hemisphere, or why some countries become a political football for the great powers USA, Russia and China.

002 Ghana’s Bitter Fruit – Tomatoes, Dumping and Migration
What do tomatoes have to do with mass migration? Tomatoes are a poker chip in global trade policies. Subsidized products from the EU, China and elsewhere are sold at dumping prices, destroying markets and livelihoods in Africa in the process.

003 Drought and Floods – The Climate Exodus
More people around the world are fleeing from climate change than from war. If human-induced climate change continues at the current rate, the World Bank warns that by 2050 there could be as many as 180 million climate refugees.
Zapovednik
A Political Satire

844956 Animation, 52 x 12 min., 2023, HD; Subtitled English, Russian WW, VoD, M, IFE

Animation for grown-ups!
Renowned Russian spin doctors, Wolf and Hare, are busy discussing the hottest political issues of the day. Every week they rip the political elites to shreds – from Putin to Biden, Erdogan to Scholz. Dissecting political scandals, the big issues and the intrigue.

In their newscast summary, Wolf – biting, cynical, meticulous, and Hare – cowardly, prone to compromise and panic, comment on the current political situation in Russia and its aggression against Ukraine. They are supported by Crow – a reporter, able to get anywhere at all without being noticed, doing the roving reports, and Owl – the editor, putting the stories on air.

The characters’ discussions are illustrated by sketches of 1–5 minutes, involving Russian and foreign politicians. In places where people, animals, money and the last remnants of common sense disappear.

The animation is created using a state-of-the-art game development environment, with the animated characters coming to life through real-life actors and motion capture. An innovative new production technique makes it all possible. This show is politics stripped bare and with no make-up – DW’s animated satire Zapovednik (The Nature Reserve).
The Patent Wars

Many international companies shell out huge amounts of money for patent fees every year. That makes good business sense, because well-constructed patents can stop other manufacturers from making similar or identical products. It can even prevent that when competitors haven’t copied products, but are instead trying to make money by implementing standards that – until now – were generally considered universal. More and more, well-heeled firms are using patents not only to eliminate competition, but also to lay intellectual property claims to a wide range of information on international, globalized markets. Along with filings for technological developments, patent claims are also now being filed for strains of rice that have been around for centuries, for example, or genetic information inside the human body. The judicial smoke and mirrors is having dramatic consequences for consumers everywhere, since international trade agreements are now turning patent claims into true world monopolies. But increasingly, multinationals are facing resistance in their attempts to patent humanity’s common resources.
This Means War

The face of war is changing. Governments and armies attempt to package it as a legitimate political tool and, as far as is possible, try to portray military campaigns as harmless. Few opportunities remain for journalists to convey an accurate and genuine representation of war and its consequences – with reporters themselves often becoming targets in a conflict. Civilians are only safe as long as this is deemed appropriate. Only sanitized images of war are made public; “clean” and precise strikes using combat drones and intelligent bombs; and those involved are given all the air time they need to justify their military activities. The reality on the ground is very different. Wars continue to inflict great suffering, destruction and death – long after the battles have ceased.

864824 010
Congo’s Women Take Up Arms
It is estimated that 500,000 women have been raped during the 20-year civil war in the Democratic Republic of Congo, either by marauding gangs or by soldiers. Several hundred women, however, have decided that, rather than remain defenseless, they are going to fight. Some sign up with the army, others join the various rebel groups.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR

864824 011
NATO’s Lethal Legacy
As they pulled out of Afghanistan, NATO-led ISAF troops left behind a dangerous legacy: unexploded bombs. They remain in battle zones, in places hit by airstrikes – and on former training grounds. The live munitions pose a grave threat to local people. NATO is obliged to clear them, but this is happening far too slowly – if at all.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR

864824 012
The Deadly Effects of the Gulf Wars
During the two wars of 1991 and 2003, it’s thought that up to 2,000 tons of depleted uranium weapons were deployed in Iraq – although to date no reliable data has been collected on the issue. 300 regions in Iraq are viewed as contaminated and urgently need to be cleared of harmful substances. There has been a huge increase in instances of cancer, stillbirths and congenital deformities in local populations. There are no official studies on the causes of these afflictions, and unofficial studies are not recognized.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR
Zero Tolerance

Large areas of Asia are experiencing unbridled urbanization. The disparity between city and rural regions is increasing, as the gap between rich and poor continues to grow. Around half the continent’s population are under 25 and demanding greater participation. In many of its emergent nations this part of the world is experiencing a political and above all religious radicalization that would have been unthinkable not so long ago. A dangerous blend of autocratic systems and religious extremism threatens to divide several nations in this region. Others run the risk of leaving democratic principles by the wayside. How are people living with this growing intolerance?

884910 002
The Philippines – In the Sights of IS
In May 2017, militants affiliated with the “Islamic State” terrorist movement seized power in the city of Marawi on the Philippine island of Mindanao. The Filipino army needed five months to liberate Marawi from the Islamists. The result: more than 1,000 dead and a city in ruins. More than 60,000 people from Marawi are still living in refugee camps and other emergency accommodation. The conflict between Muslims and Catholics, stoked by the Islamists, continues to impact upon the political situation in the southern Philippines. And President Rodrigo Duterte is known less for his talents as a peacemaker, and more for his hardline policies. Is the Islamist threat in the Philippines now a thing of the past?
Documentary, 45 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, German, Spanish; WW, VoD, M, IFE

884910 003
Indonesia – Diversity under Threat
Following the end of the brutal Suharto dictatorship in 1998, Indonesia became a model for a democratic Muslim majority state. But in recent years, Islamist groups have gained influence. More women are wearing headscarves in public places. The niqab, the face veil, is becoming increasingly popular. Members of minority groups feel marginalized.

“Unfortunately, Indonesia is not immune to the worldwide increase in intolerance”, says politician Yenny Wahid. The daughter of the first elected president after the Suharto dictatorship stands for cosmopolitanism and represents a liberal view of Islam. She, too, has observed a slow Islamization of her homeland and the tendency of politicians to make concessions to radical and populist groups. Student activists blame the corruption of the ruling class for growing radicalism and undermining diversity. The documentary asks whether the country can preserve its religious tolerance.
Documentary, 45 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; WW, VoD, M, IFE

884910 001
Bangladesh – The Dawn of Islamism
Secular bloggers risk their lives by speaking out, opponents of the government disappear without trace, the Hindu minority is under attack: In Bangladesh headlines are dominated by violence. The country that wants to reconcile democracy and Islam appears to be finding it harder and harder to strike a balance between the two. But the political elite refuse to recognize the growth of violent Islamism in the country. Just how influential are the Islamists in Bangladesh?
Documentary, 45 min., 2019, HD; English, German, Spanish; WW, VoD, M, IFE
Digital Warriors
Women, Social Media and the Revolution

Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and other social media can drive social change or even spark revolutions. Women around the world are using the Internet as a weapon in their struggle for equal rights. They are fighting against the murder of women in Latin America, female genital mutilation in Africa, compulsory headscarves in Iran and for peace between India and Pakistan.

Net activists are increasingly fearless. No matter what hostilities they face, including online trolls who call for them to be killed, they do not back down. Hundreds of thousands follow these women on social media. Their campaigns inspire other women to take to the streets for equality, self-determination, human rights, freedom of speech and to oppose sexualized violence.

In Argentina, activist María Florencia Alcaraz and her comrades-in-arms launched the #NiUnaMenos campaign against gender-based violence in general and the epidemic of femicides in particular. The movement has swept Latin America like an avalanche. Amid a culture of machismo, the movement is about dignity, self-determination and sheer survival. Dignity and self-determination are also issues Masih Alinejad fights for. A real force of nature, the exiled Iranian now lives in New York. Her campaigns My Stealthy Freedom and White Wednesdays, in which women in Iran protest against being forced to wear headscarves, are so successful the regime in Tehran now fears a revolt by women.

In Guinea, where 96% of women have been forced to suffer female genital mutilation, Aissata M.B. Camara’s Break The Silence campaign is fighting to end the practice. Aissata herself has had to live with the physical and psychological anguish of FGM since she herself was cut at age eleven. In a viral video Profile for Peace, Gurmeher Kaur called for reconciliation between arch-enemies India and Pakistan. She has been insulted and received death threats on India’s social networks. Gurmeher herself would have good reason to hate Pakistan. When she was barely three years old, her father, an officer in the Indian army, died fighting the Pakistani military in Kashmir.

Four women, four continents, one mission: Using social media to mobilize support in and beyond their communities, Florencia, Masih, Aissata and Gurmeher are changing the world.
I'm in Europe and safe, but I cannot escape the war. Every day it is here on my mobile phone." Amjad, Omar and others may now be living in Europe but they are not entirely present in their new homes. Every day they receive messages and videos from relatives and friends: shelling in Idlib, scenes from inside a Syrian jail and everyday life in an area controlled by the so-called Islamic State (ISIS). These are not the anonymous images we see on news broadcasts, but very personal accounts from people who have names and faces, with their own stories and destinies. The videos sent by phone are not professional productions; they are blurred, shaky and noisy, but they are authentic and they confront us with the daily experience of war – unofficial, personal war. The images intrude on the secure world of Europe, leaving the protagonists torn between their often idyllic new surroundings and the home and people they have left behind. Videos of bombardments or prisons burst into the picture-postcard backdrops of the Münsterland or Saarbrücken in Germany. ISIS propaganda films pop up in a café. The war is suddenly close – with a face and a voice. These images and the stories are all the more moving because they reach us directly, without any professional remove. They are images of war in the digital age, and this is a film about a time in which distant realities are brought close every minute of the day – in this case painfully close.
China – Rebellion from Within
China’s economic upswing has had a dramatic impact on the nation as a whole. The ruling Communist Party has uncompromisingly modernized the country and exposed the population to unregulated markets. State security agencies and Internet censorship aim to provide for peaceful and harmonious public life. But there are increasing numbers of people who dream of a better China and who are dedicated to achieving this despite the risks and the tough repressive measures.

Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Whistleblowers – Alone Against the System
For the justice system, they are people who betray secrets, while society often regards them as heroes. Whistleblowers expose corruption, data misuse or war crimes. They place their conscience above the personal consequences of their actions – which all too often result in a clash with a system in which former allies become bitter enemies.

Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, German, Russian, Spanish; WW, VoD, M, IFE

Requiem for a City – The Venice Sellout
20 million tourists visit Venice every year, a daily average of 60,000 – and the numbers are growing. That’s more than the population of the city itself, which is around 58,000. For the locals, life in Venice is collapsing. The film is a requiem for a glorious but troubled city, and a lesson on how public assets are becoming the quarry of the few.

Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

A Ray of Light – The Lebanon Project
Every summer, young people from Europe volunteer at a summer camp in the Lebanese mountains, where they help disabled people enjoy an unforgettable if brief holiday. The disabled people involved in the Lebanon Project spend the rest of the year in institutions, often in poor conditions.

Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; English, Russian, Spanish; WW, VoD, M, IFE

Brothers of the Jihad – Warriors in Eastern Europe
An important role on the Ukrainian side in the civil war in the east of the country is played by what are known as the territorial defense battalions. Most of these volunteer units are ultranationalist and Christian in character, but there are also Islamist battalions. The Brothers, as they call themselves, are members of IS and other jihadist groups trying to establish a broad-based militant network.

Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR
564681 096
Ghetto Children – Marseille’s Neglected Outskirts
La Savine, a high-rise project on the outskirts of the French port city of Marseille, is for the most part home to socially marginalized people living in poverty. Ahmed Madi runs a youth soccer club there and makes every effort to ensure that his boys don’t end up on the wrong tracks.
Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564681 097
9/11 – Nothing Like It Was
The US has been left deeply traumatized by the 9/11 terror attacks and the military conflicts that began in their aftermath. The responses of individual Americans to this could not be more different, and show a country split down the middle.
Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564681 100
Hell on Earth – The Suffering of Female Refugees
Refugees often report that their flight entailed terrible and deeply traumatic experiences. Women are the worst affected, with incidences of physical and sexual violence running like a thread through their accounts. But few witnesses are courageous enough to talk about their experiences in front of a camera.
Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564681 101
Ana Rosa’s Campaign – The Right to Child Labor in Bolivia
In Bolivia, it is legal for children aged 10 or older to work, even though that violates international conventions on child labor. 11-year-old Ana Rosa is not, however, contesting the law. On the contrary, she goes to school and she goes to work every day; she is also on the board of the children’s trade union. In her view, children have to help themselves.
Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564681 103
Housemaids in Singapore – Second-Class Migrants
The housemaid market in Singapore is booming – young women employed by high-earning families, most of them from foreign countries themselves, for a very low wage. They often have no rights, because there are no labor laws protecting housemaids.
Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564681 104
Masoud’s List – From IS Victim to Terrorist Hunter
For eight long months, Masoud Aqil languished in the torture chambers of the IS terrorist militia in Syria. The video journalist was the first Kurdish civilian to be set free as part of a prisoner exchange in September 2015. He fled via the Balkans to Germany, where he is now living at a secret location. Thanks to his contacts and meticulous online research, Masoud Aqil has tracked down his torturers and other supporters of IS. He has traced some of these individuals to refugee centers in Europe and reported them to the German authorities. The torture victim has now become a terrorist hunter.
Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; WW, VoD, M, IFE

564681 105
Water is Life – A Soccer Player Builds Wells in Ethiopia
Neven Subotic is a soccer star with a busy life and hordes of fans, yet he still finds time to help others less fortunate. During the summer, when there are no matches to train for, he builds wells and sanitation facilities in northern Ethiopia, where many people do not have access to safe drinking water or clean toilets. The foundation he has set up focuses on clean water, sanitation and hygiene, in order to help children in the world’s poorest regions have a better future. If conditions are hygienic, children are healthier and more likely to go to school.
Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; English, Spanish; WW, VoD, M, IFE
Afghanistan under the Taliban – A Land of different Truths
When the Taliban returned to power, life changed dramatically for the people of Afghanistan, and for women first and foremost. Our reporters travelled there to find out what life is like under militant Islamist rule.

Imam and Gay – Islam and Tolerance
Ludovic-Mohamed Zahed wants an Islam that is more tolerant of the LGBTQ community. He’s fighting for gay Muslims to be able to live their lives openly without fear or shame.

Brussels Sends an Envoy – EU Aid in Latin America?
Janez Lenarčič is the EU’s Commissioner for Crisis Management. However, he also deals with problems far beyond Europe’s borders. In Colombia, Janez Lenarčič meets with the leaders of an indigenous community that is in urgent need of medical care and sanitary facilities. The European Union aims to set up its first permanent emergency response center outside of Europe, with a focus on humanitarian aid and disaster preparedness programs.

Famine: SOS Somalia
Somalia is struggling through its worst drought in 40 years. Half the population is dependent on food aid. By mid-2023, as many as half a million children under the age of five could die, says the United Nations. It’s warning of a humanitarian disaster unless an urgently needed one billion U.S. dollars in aid money arrives in time.

Full Report Zoom
DW’s on-the-ground reporters are always close to the action, be it covering international events or zooming in on the quirks of daily life. Camera always in hand, they report on the changes they see taking place in Europe and around the world. This represents a selection of reports from our ongoing series.

SAMPLE EPISODES

Dwarf Bullfighters – Tradition or Spectacle?
Their numbers may be dwindling, but they’re still around: Short-statured people who entertain audiences at bullfights in Spain. They call themselves “dwarf toreros.” Organizations promoting equality for short-statured people want to see dwarf bullfighting shows banned. But the dwarf toreros want to keep performing. They say arena shows are fun and without them, their livelihood is at stake.

Red Gold – Mozambique’s Rubies – A Blessing or a Curse?
Rubies are increasingly prized on the international gemstone market. The world’s largest ruby mine is in northern Mozambique, where thousands of people are fleeing Islamist militias. Can the lucrative business improve the lives of the people there?
SAMPLE EPISODES

Let Me Work!
Barbara Jarsinski and Sharaman Sribalan want to quit their jobs at sheltered workshops to find better paid work on the regular labor market. But employers tend to have specific expectations – and Barbara and Sharaman’s respective disabilities make certain aspects of the work difficult or impossible.

Precious and Poached – Coral Mobs in the Mediterranean
Red coral is a sought-after raw material for southern Italy’s traditional jewellers. For centuries, the spectacular local ‘coral riviera’ has played an important role in the Mediterranean region – for the local economy and also for the ecosystem. But now it’s not only under threat from climate change, poachers and criminal networks are making a fortune from the illegal red coral trade.

Gold Rush in Mauritania
Mauritania is the latest country in the Sahara where gold has been found. Thousands are hoping to strike it rich – but digging for gold is dangerous and impacts upon human health and the environment. This is because to find gold, you need to dig extremely deep holes in the ground; and to extract the precious metal, you need toxic mercury.

Ping-Pong against Parkinson’s
When Silke Kind plays table tennis, she can almost forget she has Parkinson’s. Sport seems to help slow down the disease. Table tennis training has a positive effect, says her physiotherapist. However there are hardly any scientific studies on how ping pong affects the symptoms of Parkinson’s – the disease itself is incurable.

Identity, Pain, Struggle – Transgender in Pakistan
Sunny is a trans person living in Pakistan. She begs in order to survive. Others get by as sex workers or dancers. Trans people in Pakistan are frequently cast out by their families and live in poverty. They can find safe spaces and a new family in special centers. Here, they do not have to hide and discover that they are not alone in their fight for survival and recognition in Pakistan’s conservative society.

Calling Siloé home – Life in the Barrio
Colombians associate the name Siloé with violence and drug dealing. The district in the city of Cali is known as one of the country’s most dangerous slums. Residents of Cali are branded criminals. Already as children, they’re denied opportunities and participation in society. The Siloéños say they’ll no longer accept that. Together they’re battling the stigma and want to correct the distorted view of their neighborhood.

Straight Outta Kashmir – Female, Loud and Proud
Iqra Nisar and Anam Nasir love to rap but they must face being vilified in their native Kashmir for pursuing this passion. In the male dominated society of Kashmir, female rappers are often accused of spreading “vulgar western culture”. Iqra Nisar is 17-years old and performs under the stage name “Yung Illa”. Anam Nasir is a 19-year-old rapper who likes being rebellious. The two of them are among the first female hip-hop artists in the region.

Stand-Up Against Sexism – Pakistan’s Female Comedians
Comedy in Pakistan has always been a male-dominated space. Men are allowed to crack jokes, show off, or be crude. Enter female comedians. They get cast as mothers, daughters or mothers-in-law – rather than playing individuals, women are limited to caricatures. Amtul wants to change this, which is why she has joined the Khawatos group. “Khawatoons” is a play on the Urdu word for women, “khawateen”, and “cartoons”.

WORLD ISSUES
The little boys and girls proudly pull on their new soccer boots and, seconds later, they're out on the field to train together. Many have experienced terrible things as refugees and live in a precarious situation in a new country. But here on the soccer pitch, they can forget about their worries for a few hours. Their laughter rings out over the field and, after scoring a goal, they all hug each other, regardless of where they come from, whether they're refugees or were born here. And where is this wonderful place? In the Lebanese capital Beirut. And the kids are taking part in 'Soccer Camp Lebanon'.

Lebanon has more refugees relative to the size of its population than any other country. Here Syrian refugees live alongside Lebanese locals and Palestinian refugees who were forced to leave their homes decades ago – sometimes in close proximity. This has created a volatile situation that requires a variety of strategies to build tolerance and mutual trust if social conflict is to be avoided.

'Soccer Camp Lebanon', a nationwide tournament for children and young people, is an initiative of Germany’s Goethe Institute and coaches at a local soccer school. Based on faith in the conciliatory power of soccer, it gives 900 youngsters from Beirut and three other Lebanese cities the chance to play soccer together, to escape from their everyday lives and gain new perspectives in the process. At training sessions in mixed teams – boys and girls from Lebanese, Palestinian and Syrian families – and a closing tournament, the children have the opportunity to explore their cultural and social commonalities and differences.

Beirut Parc – Kids Seeking Refuge in Football observes the young people and explores the impact of the soccer camp on their daily lives. The program provides an insight into how the youngsters and their families live in Lebanon – either as locals or refugees – and what role soccer can play in developing new perspectives and the foundation for a peaceful coexistence.
Trash is a symbol of our times. The amount we generate and the way we deal with it speak volumes about our consumption patterns and level of prosperity – and also about social inequality. The rich consume much more than the poor and produce much more waste. But what some people throw away, others need to survive.

Godwin Ochieng lives in Dandora, a poor suburb of Nairobi, Kenya, where one of the largest dumpsites in Africa is located. He spends his days combing through endless piles of garbage, brought in by the truckload from the city’s wealthier districts, in the hope of finding something to sell: for him, the mountain of trash is a lifeline. Meanwhile, halfway around the globe in one of the world’s richest and most expensive cities, Pierre Simmons combs the streets of New York for cans he can sell to recycling companies. Both men live in countries where the gap between rich and poor is vast. But the economic and social disparities between the US and Kenya are also huge. Economists Lucas Chancel and Kate Raworth warn against the consequences of huge imbalances at both the national and international levels. They argue that they pose a great danger to our entire system of values, to our understanding of democracy and to our economy.
Assassination in Minsk
A Witness Speaks Out

864935
Documentary,
01 x 30 min.,
2020, HD,
English, Spanish
WW, VoD, M, IFE

Political murders in Belarus: For the first time a witness has spoken out in an exclusive interview. Twenty years ago, three prominent members of the opposition disappeared without a trace. Back then rumors began to circulate that they had been assassinated by a death squad.

Were the three men Yuri Zakharenko, Viktor Gonchar and Anatoly Krasovsky, all members of the opposition, abducted and murdered by a hit squad in 1999? This is the rumor that has circulated ever since. Yet the presumed contract killings under the authoritarian leadership of President Alexander Lukashenko have never been proven. Now a key witness has come forward to shed light on the matter. At the time of the killings, Yuri G. was serving in a special unit of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Now he has revealed insider knowledge of the crime. He depicts the precise sequence of events, from the kidnappings to the disposal of the bodies. The former elite soldier names the culprits and admits to being an accessory to the murders. His information leaves little doubt that in 1999 government agencies in Minsk brutally eliminated the leaders of the opposition in Belarus. How do the relatives of the deceased react to this disclosure? What does it mean for the already tense relationship between Belarus and Europe? And what is it like to live with such guilt?
Between India and Pakistan
The Sikh Dilemma

India and Pakistan traditionally have hostile relations, but there is hope on one front, at least. In order to enable the Sikhs from India to make a pilgrimage to one of their holiest shrines, a “peace corridor” has been opened between the two countries.

Sikhs constitute the fourth largest religious community in India, but find themselves are caught between India and Pakistan, between Hindus and Muslims. The majority of Sikhs worldwide live on the Indian subcontinent. The hostile relations between India and Pakistan since partition in 1947 meant that for decades Sikhs were unable to visit their holiest shrine.

Despite ongoing political tensions – especially concerning Kashmir – 73 years after their separation, India and Pakistan have fulfilled a promise that was made 20 years ago: on the occasion of the 550th birthday of the founder of their religion, Sikhs in India can now use a new border crossing to make a pilgrimage to the mausoleum of Guru Nanak in Kartarpur, Pakistan – four kilometers behind the border. The Kartarpur Corridor was opened on schedule by the prime ministers of the two countries – albeit not in a joint ceremony. Both spoke of a new “Peace Corridor”. The opening of the corridor on 9 November 2019, the anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, was no coincidence; Indian prime minister Narendra Modi directly compared the two historic events. This documentary accompanies an Indian Sikh who goes to Pakistan for the first time as part of a very special pilgrimage, while for outsiders also providing a better understanding of Sikhs as well as India and Pakistan.
Oil Promises
Ghana Dreams of New Wealth

In 2007 oil fever gripped Ghana after one of Africa’s largest oil fields was found off its coast. Hopes ran high that the newly discovered oil would boost the nation's economy and benefit the population.

Oil, the lubricant of the global economy, was in short supply. It was widely believed that wherever new oil reserves are found, they come with a promise of financial security for the people of that nation.

When oil was found 65 kilometers off their coastline, Ghanaians immediately thought the same. The year 2007 marked a turning point for a nation in the grip of poverty. Drilling was set to begin in 2010. And it was said things were going to be managed better than in Nigeria, a country that extracts oil but has to import its fuel.

The documentary explores the impact of the new oil industry on a sleepy coastal region where most people earned a living through fishing or rubber cultivation. What would change? Would the oil turn out to be an opportunity for a region that had been underprivileged or a curse as in the case of Nigeria? Filmmaker Elke Sasse spent more than a decade documenting developments in three small villages in Ghana. Nigerian artist Ebele Okoye, who also created the animations in this documentary, comments on the stories of local people from her own perspective.
Colonial Legacy
Where do Africa’s Treasures belong?

The Humboldt Forum in the capital Berlin is Germany’s biggest cultural project. Intended as a place of dialogue, it houses exhibitions on the history of the German capital, as well as the Ethnological Museum and the Museum of Asian Art. And indeed, the ethnological collections have been the focus of many controversial debates. Many of the objects, acquired during the colonial period, are tainted with blood. What does this mean for the Humboldt Forum exhibitions? How should such works be dealt with generally? Amidst the controversy surrounding looted art, the discussion about provenance research and how to curate sensitive exhibitions, we joined the head of the Ethnological Museum, Jonathan Fine, at his workplace in Berlin and on an earlier trip to Cameroon.

In 2017, Fine conducted research into one of the collection’s most impressive objects, a royal throne from the Kingdom of Bamum. He was searching for answers: How did it come to be in Germany? Was it a diplomatic gift to the German Kaiser or a forced gesture of submission? Is it a case for restitution? If it were up to Cameroonian curator and art critic Bonaventure Ndikung, Germany would have to present Cameroon with an important artwork in return – as a true act of diplomacy.

Another research project explores Germany’s colonial past in Namibia. Official German acknowledgement of the Herero genocide didn’t come until 2016. Many treasures looted during the colonial period are still in German museum collections. As part of the provenance project, researchers looked at the history, significance and artistic potential of 1,400 objects from Berlin’s collections in cooperation with the Museums Association of Namibia.

So far, 23 objects have been returned to Namibia, although only on loan. The renowned Namibian fashion and costume designer Cynthia Schimming, who was also involved in the project, has called for the works to be returned unconditionally.

Many have asked that the same be done with the Benin Bronzes, some of the most renowned and controversial pieces in the Berlin collection. These masterpieces, which once adorned the royal palace in the Kingdom of Benin (in present-day Nigeria), were plundered by British troops as part of a punitive expedition in 1897. They were then sold on the international art market; many ended up in various European museums.

They have become a touchstone for whether the Humboldt Forum will really break new ground and dare to enter into a cultural exchange on a level playing field. It was recently decided that part of the collection would be restituted, but some of the Benin Bronzes will be displayed at the Humboldt Forum. The question is how to do this appropriately.

For Jonathan Fine, ethnological museums today need to make it clear that Europe’s history is closely intertwined with colonialism: “I think it would be a success if we take the idea of a forum at its word and think of the Humboldt Forum, not as a place that will give us answers to our questions, but will enable us to pose questions about the past and the present and to bring in more voices, wider voices and different perspectives on what those questions mean. Only in that way, I think, can we come to an understanding and find answers for ourselves about what 500 years of European colonization has meant for the world we live in.”
Stolen Soul
Africa’s Looted Art

European museums showcase their international collections with pride, but they often brush aside questions about how some of the artefacts came to be in their possession. Those stories can sometimes be brutal and bloody, particularly in the case of items plundered and stolen by European colonial rulers, for the most part in Africa. In the 19th and the first half of the 20th century, hundreds of thousands of African cultural assets were brought to Germany and other European countries. Many Africans view these objects as ‘stolen souls’ leading a bleak existence in ethnographic museums far from home. Some German experts would still rather see the artefacts as being of ‘unknown provenance’. What does the future hold for these works of art? Shouldn’t African nations have control over their own cultural heritage? Artefacts in the spotlight in recent years include priceless bronzes from Nigeria, an ornate ship’s prow from Cameroon and the Witbooi Bible from Namibia. Will these objects find their way back home from Germany? Why is it so difficult to liberate Africa’s ‘stolen souls’? Young Africans say it is important for them to reconnect with artefacts of such significance in their cultures.
They Called Them “The Children of Shame”
A Tale of Prejudice and Propaganda

884943
Documentary,
01 x 60 min.,
2021, HD;
German
VoD, M, LR

Around 100,000 French troops were sent to occupy Germany’s Rhineland region in 1920. About 20,000 of these soldiers came from the French colonies of Tunisia, Morocco, French Indochina, and Senegal.

The African troops became targets of a harassment campaign called “Die Schwarze Schmach,” or “The Black Disgrace.” German political parties, the media, and many organizations tried to discredit French occupation policies by falsely claiming that black French soldiers were systematically raping German women and children. The presence of black, North African, and Asian troops in Germany was depicted as a threat to the “German race” and the future of European civilization.

Between 1919 and 1928, several hundred mixed-race children were born in Germany’s Rhineland region – the product of liaisons between local women and French occupation troops. These children, their mothers, and extended families were socially ostracized from the very beginning.

In the 1930s, these children became victims of racist Nazi policies. In 1937, Adolf Hitler secretly ordered hundreds of them to be forcibly sterilized. A special unit of the Gestapo was set up to carry out this task.

This documentary, directed by Dominik Wessely, tells the story of a forgotten crime. It also explains how propaganda and toxic “fake news” reports can create an environment in which horrific crimes can be committed.
Judith Kerr, Aeham Ahmad, Saša Stanišić, Nneka Egbuna and Antonio Skármeta come from four different continents and have one thing in common: They all fled war, hardship or persecution and started over in a new and unfamiliar place. Culture became their key to integration. Books, films and music helped pave the way.

“Isn’t it wonderful to be a refugee?” ten-year-old Judith Kerr shouted across the rooftops of Paris in 1934. She and her family had fled Nazi Germany one year earlier. Escape was a great adventure for her, and her parents didn’t let her sense their fear. Today, the world-famous writer (“When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit”) lives in London and says: “For me, England was my home at the end of the war. But it wasn’t for my parents. They never belonged anywhere.” It’s a story typical of many refugee families.

Aeham Ahmad, “the pianist amid the rubble” of the Yarmouk refugee camp in Damascus, keeps wondering why he of all people survived while so many others didn’t. Saša Stanišić has become a renowned German-language author after fleeing the Bosnian War in 1992 at the age of 14. Musician Nneka Egbuna who fled the violence in her family in Nigeria as a teenager, lives in Lagos, Hamburg and Paris but isn’t truly at home anyplace – “home” to her is a feeling. Author Antonio Skármeta was no longer allowed to work at home in Chile after Augusto Pinochet’s coup d’état in 1973, and lived in exile in West Germany.
Life Links
Sharing Realities, Changing Perspectives

Life Links sheds light on issues that affect young people around the globe: on what holds them back, what cramps their style and how they nonetheless manage to master their lives. In each episode three Life Links reporters meet young people in different parts of the world. Their personal experiences show how different yet similar young people’s realities are.

864843 001
Who Am I – Finding Myself
Ka-yeon escaped from North Korea to the neighboring South – and is now trying to fit in. Alina lives on the outskirts of Paris, France and has always experienced rejection because she is a Roma. Amin in Cologne, Germany considers himself German, though his roots are Egyptian. He is always confronted with people who insist on knowing where he is “really” from.

864843 002
Drug Trap – Breaking Free
Gilda from Bolivia would much rather be a teacher than a coca farmer. She is forced to pick the leaves from which cocaine can be made. Dominik from Germany started taking drugs when he was a teenager and his life went downhill from there. Now he’s in prison for aggravated assault. Emma hasn’t had a sip of alcohol for three years. But even now that she’s sober, she still struggles because her fellow Finns like to drink a lot.

864843 003
Deal with Me – Seeking Acceptance
David is proud to be Jewish. As the stigmatization of minorities seems to have become socially acceptable in his native Hungary, he is trying to fight the trend. Ali has been a refugee almost all his life. Hoping for a future without discrimination, he left Iran and fled to Germany where he’s struggling for acceptance. Leonidah lives in Kenya and has albinism. People with her condition face persecution and discrimination. Yet Leonidah wants to be accepted for who she is and what she looks like.

864843 004
Blame My Parents – Bearing the Burden
In Romania, Andrea has to take care of her younger sister all by herself. Their mother lives and works in western Europe, so she can support her family. Jean Claude in Rwanda doesn’t know his father. His mother, an ethnic Tutsi, was raped by several Hutu militiamen during the genocide in 1994. Robin in Germany was still a student when his father died. His life changed from one day to the next when he had to take over the family business.

864843 005
For Christ’s Sake – Ordain Me!
Jacqueline from Germany feels called to Catholic priesthood. The only problem: she’s a woman. Petrus is a member of the Suriyani, a Christian minority in Turkey. He wants to become a priest, but his religion isn’t officially recognized in his country. M is a Methodist in the United States and believes that sexuality and gender are fluid concepts. She feels called to the ministry but has been turned down by her church.

864843 006
Head Above Water – Call of Duty
Ships make for some of the toughest workplaces on earth. It’s hard work, long hours and little pay. Paul comes from a family of fishermen, but he’s one of the last young men wanting to do the job in Germany. Jeroen from Holland, like his colleagues, faces countless obstacles: shipwrecks, piracy, dangerous working conditions and lots more. Alamgir works with his bare hands to dismantle ships in Bangladesh – a dangerous and backbreaking profession. But he has no choice but to keep going.
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<td>Peter Lindbergh</td>
<td>364892</td>
<td>Documentary</td>
<td>01 x 30 min.</td>
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When World War Two ended in 1945 with victory over Nazism, millions of POWs and slave laborers were able to return home. But for around 50,000 Jews freed from concentration camps, there was nowhere to return. Deported from their eastern European homelands by the Nazis, the Jewish refugees now found themselves in camps for Displaced Persons run mainly by the US Army. One of the largest DP camps was in the town of Landsberg am Lech, in southern Germany. Between 1945 and 1950, it was a ‘city within a city’, home to up to 7,000 Jews.

The documentary ‘Life after Liberation – Holocaust Survivors in Post-War Germany’ meets survivors of the Shoah liberated near Landsberg and later housed in the DP camp and in the town. The survivors tell of the fate of their families and their own attempts to rebuild their lives. But as 94-year-old Jakob Bresler, who survived 11 concentration camps and ghettos, recounts, ‘What was normal for us, wasn’t normal for the rest of the world. We were disturbed children.’

Life in the DP camp was marked by the trauma of the Holocaust, the search for family members, the need for education and professional skills – and the yearning to leave Germany. Over time, the world found out more about fate of the Jewish survivors. As New York historian Atina Grossmann describes, the DP camps became a global political issue. The film also exposes what Germany called the ‘Zero Hour’ – the term used to imply a radical break with the past after the war – as an oft-questionable attempt at self-exoneration. In the town of Landsberg in 1951, for example, a solidarity rally attended by local residents called for ‘Christian mercy’ – not for the victims of Nazi tyranny, but for the Nazi mass murderers standing trial in the town and facing the death penalty for their crimes.

In the Nazi era, party officials in Landsberg had built a huge concentration camp complex for almost 30,000 prisoners, most of them Jewish. The film also accompanies Helga and Manfred Deiler, a married couple from Landsberg who have spent the last 40 years campaigning for a fitting new memorial in their town.
Classical Music under the Swastika
The Maestro and the Cellist in Auschwitz

Why was classical music so important to the German dictator Adolf Hitler and his propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels? The stories of the persecuted Jewish cellist Anita Lasker-Wallfisch and the conductor Wilhelm Furtwängler, who cooperated with the Nazis to a certain degree, provide insights into the musical life of the German dictatorship between 1933 and 1945.

The film’s main protagonists are two people who represent musical culture during the Nazi era in very different ways: Celebrity conductor Wilhelm Furtwängler and a cellist in the women’s orchestra at Auschwitz, Anita Lasker-Wallfisch. On the one hand, a world-famous conductor who wielded great influence with Hitler and his cronies. On the other, a young German Jewish woman imprisoned at Auschwitz, who only survived because of her musical talent. Both were affected by the Nazi dictatorship: Furtwängler opted to stay in Germany and was courted by the Nazis. For Lasker-Wallfisch however, her cello was the only thing protecting her from the brutality of everyday life in the concentration camp. Classical music, which they both loved, was performed by the Berlin Philharmonic but could also be heard at Nazi party rallies in Nuremberg and in concentration camps such as Auschwitz. Why did gifted artists like Furtwängler cooperate with the Nazi regime? Why was music played in the death camps? And how did this affect the victims’ view of music?

German music was used to legitimate the supremacy of the Third Reich on the world stage and distract from the Nazis’ wrongdoings. As well as Beethoven, Bach and Bruckner, Richard Wagner enjoyed a particularly high status as Hitler’s favorite composer. Hitler was very conscious of the power of music; his propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels controlled all musical life in Nazi Germany, where Jewish artists no longer had a place. The Berlin Philharmonic was rebranded as the “Reich’s Orchestra”.

Interview partners in this music documentary by Christian Berger include the conductors Daniel Barenboim and Christian Thielemann, Wilhelm Furtwängler’s children and of course the cellist Anita Lasker-Wallfisch, now almost 100 years old. Her recollections are the most poignant and moving. Archive footage restored and colorized especially for the film brings these stories to life and bears witness to a dramatic period in history.
HISTORY

Classified: World War II

During World War Two, lies, propaganda and disinformation were the order of the day. What do we now know about the machinations of those involved, kept secret from the public for decades after the end of the conflict? What were the crimes that one simply didn't speak of, even if one was aware of them? What were the events that historians were only able to find out about years after they happened? New facts are coming to light all the time, whether about espionage, diplomatic contacts or economic ties. Classified: World War II tells the stories from this terrible war that aren't common knowledge.

364900 001
Hitler’s Money Launderers: Swiss Banks
For Nazi Germany, looted gold was a key source of World War Two funding. Banks in neutral Switzerland earned a fortune converting the gold into foreign currencies, which the Nazis then used to acquire raw materials. The banks have never been held to account for their actions.

Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, LR

364900 002
The Vatican's Fatal Silence
Catholicism and Nazism may seem incompatible with one another, yet the Vatican and Pope Pius XII played an unholy role with respect to Hitler and the Nazi dictatorship in Germany. Pius decided to remain silent in public about the crimes of the Nazis, instead of taking a stand as a moral authority.

Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

364900 003
The Commandant’s Wife – A Story of Despotism and Guilt
Ilse Koch, the wife of the commandant of the Buchenwald concentration camp, led a comfortable life, even as the prisoners starved and died agonizing deaths. Although she played no official role there, she was feared for her cruelty and capriciousness.

Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

364900 005
The Dead Man Who Had Hitler Fooled
In 1943 the Allies were planning to invade Sicily but wanted Nazi Germany to believe they intended to invade Sardinia and Greece instead. So they thought up a disinformation manoeuvre, Operation Mincemeat. It involved the body of a dead man dressed up as a British officer with misleading fake documents in his pockets. The Germans fell for the ruse.

Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

364900 006
Codename Ramsay – The Soviets’ Top Spy in Tokyo
Richard Sorge, a Soviet military intelligence officer with a German father and a Russian mother, is considered one of the most successful spies of the 20th century. He provided Stalin with reports on the war plans of the Axis powers. The fact that Stalin didn’t always believe him cost the lives of millions of people. As for Sorge’s own life, when he was arrested in Tokyo, Moscow did nothing to save him.

Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

364900 007
Japan’s Attack on Manchuria
The roots of the Second World War in Asia lie in the conflict between Japan and China, which escalated into a full-scale war in 1937. But even as early as 1931, Japan attacked and occupied the Chinese territory of Manchuria. The pretext was a staged event, which became known as the Mukden Incident. The secret operation and disinformation campaign was devised and led by a Japanese military officer named Ishiwara Kanji, who was probably acting independently of the government.

Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR
Pervitin – The Wehrmacht’s Secret Weapon
In the “Blitzkrieg” against Poland and France, German soldiers appeared to be unstoppable. We now know this was because they were consuming vast quantities of a wonder-drug called Pervitin, introduced in 1938 as a stimulant and moodenhancer. Its active ingredient still makes headlines today, as an illegal drug with devastating sideeffects: methamphetamine, or crystal meth. In the short-term, it improves performance and concentration and dulls anxiety, appetite and sensitivity to cold. But in the long-term, it inflicts huge damage on a person’s health, as well as being highly addictive. Did Nazi Germany’s military machine run on drugs?

Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Zyklon B – The Holocaust’s Poison Gas
Mass murder in Nazi killing centers was in part carried out with the poison gas Zyklon B. It had been developed as a pesticide 20 years earlier and was manufactured by a subsidiary of I.G.Farben. The conglomerate had close ties before and even during the war to the US chemicals group DuPont. A German business consultant named Erwin Respondek with contacts in both industrial giants became a spy for the United States. Did he inform Washington about the use of Zyklon B to kill humans?

Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

The Blueprint for the War – Hitler’s “Mein Kampf”
Between 1924 and 1926, the Nazi “Führer” and later German dictator Adolf Hitler wrote a book entitled “Mein Kampf”, which means “My Struggle”. It openly details his political agenda, fomenting hatred of the Jews and threatening war. Most of his opponents dismissed it as mere propaganda. In Germany, that only changed after he seized power. Governments in war-weary Europe and the US continued to give credence to assertions by Reich Chancellor Hitler that he was committed to peace, and were slow to pay heed to his real aims as set out in the book.

Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

The Nuclear Arms Race – Its World War II Beginnings
From mid-1942, the US mobilized more than 100,000 people in a program to build an atom bomb. This endeavor was driven by the fear that Nazi Germany was developing its own such weapon with unprecedented destructive power. At the same, the Soviet Union launched its own atomic bomb project. Spies kept both sides well-informed of the other’s progress. The bitter contest for nuclear supremacy marked the beginning of the Cold War, even before the end of World War II.

Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, LR
364900 013

**Hollywood and the War**

When the US entered World War Two in 1941, Americans accustomed to isolationism had to be convinced that this was the right move. To do this, the government in Washington turned to the movies. As a result, the Hollywood dream factory, focused on entertainment and profit, became a patriotic institution. Renowned directors, some of them refugees from the Nazis, dedicated themselves to documentaries and filmed on the frontline. What motivated them, how did they tread the fine line between reality and propaganda? From a modern perspective, not only is their unique footage an important historical resource, it also presents Hollywood in a new light.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR**

364900 014

**The Salvation of Paris**

Paris, one of the most beautiful cities in Europe, in flames, totally destroyed, reduced to a heap of rubble: a crazy vision that Adolf Hitler wanted to see realized when it became clear in August 1944 that the German Army would have to give up the French capital. It was incumbent upon the German commander of the city, General Dietrich von Choltitz, to carry out this order. He had already played a role in the extermination of the Jews in eastern Europe. Nevertheless, he defied the orders of the Führer, and became known as the Nazi general who spared Paris. But what do the facts tell us? Did von Choltitz have the military resources to carry out destruction on such a massive scale? Was his decision ethically motivated, or did he just want to save his own skin before the arrival of the Allied forces?

**Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR**

364900 015

**Babies for the “Master Race”**

One of the Nazis’ goals was the salvation and supremacy of what they termed the “Nordic race”. The annihilation of those they deemed inferior was just as much part of the grand plan as the establishment of homes for the birth and post-natal care of “racially valuable” and “genetically healthy” children, some of them the product of extramarital relationships between women and members of the SS. These children would be taken away from their parents and raised by families who were adherents of Nazism. The long-term goal was the formation of a kind of Nazi elite. The homes were run by an association called “Lebensborn”, or “Fount of Life”. More than 20,000 “Lebensborn” children were born in Germany and other European nations between 1936 and the end of the war. Their fate bears tragic witness to the Nazis’ inhumane ideology.

**Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, LR**

364900 016

**Hitler’s Death and Stalin’s Secret**

Once the Red Army had surrounded Berlin in mid-April 1945, the Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin ordered his men to capture his German counterpart Hitler alive at all costs. But this was not to be, because the Führer committed suicide in his bunker on April 30. His corpse was then burned. Thanks to a Russian interpreter and a German dental assistant, both of them women, the Soviets were able to identify Hitler’s remains. Nevertheless, Stalin publicly maintained that Hitler’s body had not been found. He also blamed his allies for supporting the Nazi leader’s apparent escape. What were his intentions? And what happened to the two women who thought they had helped to establish the truth?

**Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR**
It was Hitler’s invasion of Poland that triggered World War Two in Europe. This assault by National Socialist Germany, which contravened international law, began on 1 September 1939 when German troops entered Poland without warning. It ended on 6 October that same year when the last remaining Polish forces capitulated.

The commonly accepted theory is that the war began when the German warship Schleswig-Holstein shelled a Polish garrison on the Westerplatte peninsular in the city of Gdansk. In fact, however, a German air force bomber squadron had already reduced the small Polish town of Wielun to rubble. The town’s unsuspecting residents were taken by surprise as they lay sleeping in their beds. Wielun was a town without any military presence or strategic importance. It was almost completely destroyed in three bombardments.

Hitler’s Assault is without precedent in television history. It is the first German-Polish co-production to document the events that started World War Two. The bombing of Wielun forms the dramatic framework of the film, which is told from both sides – German residents of the border region and soldiers on the one hand, and Polish eyewitnesses on the other. 70 years on, they talked about their personal recollections of how the war began. Renowned historians also discuss the events of August and September 1939.
The Cold War set in even before the Second World War had ended. The divergent ideologies, interests and goals of the former allies, temporarily suspended in the battle against the Axis powers, became all the more evident after victory was sealed. Barely two years after the end of WWII in 1945, two politically and economically distinct blocs faced each other, led by the two superpowers the US and the Soviet Union.

The conflict was called the Cold War because the NATO and Warsaw Pact alliances were not engaged in direct combat with one another. The battlefields were propaganda, espionage, the arms race and numerous proxy wars.

The economic implosion of the Soviet Union heralded the end of the Cold War. The collapse affected dependent communist dictatorships and eventually brought down the entire socialist bloc. The fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 is a powerful symbol of this historic turning point.

But we are still far from knowing everything that happened during the Cold War. In the bitter wrangling, both sides resorted to dubious means, some of which are still classified or unknown to this day. With the help of documents and personal stories, we can gradually put together a more truthful account of this global conflict.

A Nazi Cog in the Cold War Machine
After World War Two, Klaus Barbie, a German war criminal, was able to evade punishment and escape to Bolivia, where he lived under a false name. As a member of a network of former Nazis, he began a second career as torturer and agent in the service of brutal military dictators, powerful drug barons and arms dealers. Although sought internationally for his crimes, he was also protected – by western spy agencies who used him to further their own interests during the Cold War.

Berlin – Divided City of Spies
During its 40-year division, Berlin was one of the major flashpoints in a bitter battle between the capitalist and communist camps. A clandestine war raged on both sides of the physical border made of barbed wire and concrete. Thousands of agents from West and East watched each other’s every move, carried out industrial espionage and sabotage and attempted to destabilize the other side. Their methods were often brutal; for spies, the divided city of Berlin was dangerous territory.
Cuba Crisis – The Unknown Historical Context
From the mid-1950s, the United States and the Soviet Union were locked in an unprecedented arms race that peaked with the Cuban Missile Crisis: Following the Soviet decision to station mid-range ballistic missiles on Cuba, Washington threatened a nuclear response in 1962. The confrontation was de-escalated just in time to avoid war. But what few people know is that there was another contributing factor: the earlier stationing on the Murge plateau in southern Italy of American nuclear missiles – within striking distance of the Soviet Union.

Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Vietnam: Secret Diplomacy During the War
The Vietnam War raged for decades. Fearing the spread of communism, the United States initially joined the conflict in secret, later openly and with increasing ferocity in the fight against North Vietnam and its Chinese and Soviet sponsors. After US public opinion turned against the war in response to heavy losses and reports of frontline brutality, peace talks began in Paris in 1968. A breakthrough was achieved in separate, secret talks between US National Security Adviser Henry Kissinger and Le Duc Tho, a member of North Vietnam’s politburo, which resulted in the 1973 Paris Peace Accords and the withdrawal of US forces.

Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Afghanistan 1979: The War that Changed the World
In December 1979, the Soviet Army marched into Afghanistan. The ensuing war tore the country apart, cost countless lives, ended a period of détente between the US and the Soviet Union, and triggered devastating long-term developments. It altered the political balance in the Middle East and Central Asia, accelerated the demise of the Soviet Union and was one of the causes of Islamist terrorism. But little is known about the background to the conflict. Was the Soviet Union aware of the potential impact and geopolitical consequences of its intervention?

Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Deceive and Provoke: The Reagan Method
Upon his election as US President in 1981, Ronald Reagan moved to redefine America’s Cold War strategy: attack, not defense. His secret “deception committee” planned secret service operations against Soviet-controlled territories. At the same time, Reagan backed demonstrations of strength intended to intimidate and humiliate the Soviet Union. Reagan knew that this approach would torpedo western Europe’s policy of détente and bring the world to the brink of nuclear war.

Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
Walled in! The Inner German Border

524730 001
Walled in!
The computer animation, depicting the Berlin Wall and the border between East and West Germany, illustrates the oppressive reality of the border region as it seeks to answer the question: “What was the Wall really like?”

Today, only fractions of the no-man’s land and the Wall itself remain. The computer animation connects the dots – making the perils of the border region visible. For the first time, historians and television producers have created a detailed reconstruction of the no-man’s land as it looked at the start of the 1980s, including new views of the border fortifications.

With startling imagery, the animation recreates what was once a divided Germany for those who know it today as just another piece of distant history, helping younger generations better understand the suffering of people in Berlin and throughout Germany, divided for decades by the border between East and West.

Animation, 11 min., 2009, HD; Arabic, English, French, German, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; WW, VoD, M, IFE

524730 002
Making of “Walled in!”
To recreate the border region in as much detail as possible, animators generated more than 130,000 images from historical models, in a high-definition computer process that took some 100,000 hours to complete. Every object had to be created as an individual graphical element using polygon shapes. The Church of Reconciliation, located in the death strip, for instance required some 500,000 polygons. The Making of Walled in! tells the backstory of the striking animation, including the intensive effort required to build a virtual replication of the Berlin Wall.

Documentary, 11 min., 2009, SD; Arabic, English, French, German, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; WW, VoD, M, IFE
The Promise of the West

The Berlin Wall was one of the most infamous symbols of the Cold War and the division of Germany. For some people living behind the Iron Curtain, the pull of the West was so strong that they were willing to risk their lives to cross the heavily guarded border between East and West Berlin. Hundreds were killed trying to flee, but many others managed to make it to the West by using ingenious and spectacular methods of escape.

Just Get Over There! – Kicking for the Class Enemy
Falko Götz – star on the football pitch for many years and former coach to German Bundesliga club Hertha BSC. Few people know that Götz took the decision of a lifetime at the age of 21. He left his family, his home, and his country, the German Democratic Republic. Falko Götz tells the whole story of his flight and its consequences. Did he find the freedom he was looking for?

Flight to Freedom
Three brothers, three escapes, three incredible stories. Ingo, Holger and Egbert Bethke fled East Germany one by one in dramatic style. In this film the brothers meet for the first time in eighteen years to talk in detail about their escapes, about what happened, and what might have happened.

Veiled Plans
As the daughter of a diplomat, Kerstin Beck saw more of the world than most East Germans. She lived in Iraq and Vietnam, and went to Soviet-occupied Afghanistan as an exchange student when she was 23 after hatching a plan to cross the Hindu Kush and enter Pakistan. From there, she was able to fly on to West Germany.

Risking Everything
When Berit Geißler was 21, she and her family escaped the GDR by hiding in the back of a caravan belonging to a holidaying Swiss couple. They then crossed from what was then Yugoslavia to the West, with Berit locked into a water tank and her husband and baby sewn into a mattress.

Escape Through the Sewers
Dieter Wohlfahrt was 15 when he left the GDR and moved to West Berlin. Years later, he took advantage of the fact that his Austrian nationality allowed him to cross between West and East Berlin to help East Germans escape through the sewerage system. During a rescue attempt in 1961 he was shot and killed by GDR border guards. Karl-Heinz Albert was with him at the time. He’s never come to terms with his friend’s death.

The Harvest – The Aftermath of East Germany’s Fortified Border
The fall of communism in 1989 turned life in a small East German village upside down. Twenty years on, most of the inhabitants were still there, but their lives had been transformed. This epic report from deep in the heart of the former GDR provides fascinating insight and is compelling as a study of personal hopes and fears, joy and suffering.
The Berlin Wall, Our Family and Us

It's been 30 years since the fall of the Berlin Wall, but differences between eastern and western Germany still remain. Franz Hildebrandt-Harangozó and his sister Antonia Hildebrandt were both born after 1989 and grew up in a united Germany.

They study in Berlin and live near Bernauer Strasse, a street where the Berlin Wall once split the city in two. Their grandparents watched the Wall go up in 1961 and decided to stay in East Berlin; their mother fled to the west in 1989, shortly before the Wall came down. Franz and Antonia want to find out why traces of Germany's division still exist to this day. As the two talk to their family and explore the former East Germany, the legacy of Germany's division into two states comes to light. What did East and West look like back then, and what has since changed?
### History

**45 Min.**

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<tr>
<td>384846</td>
<td><strong>Tito’s Murder Squads – The Killing of Yugoslav Exiles in Germany</strong></td>
<td>Before the fall of the Berlin Wall, around 30 opponents of the Yugoslav regime were murdered in West Germany – most exiled Croats assassinated on orders from Belgrade. German prosecutors believe former high-level intelligence agent Josip Perkovic was responsible for at least one of the killings, and he’s now been indicted in Munich. In a documentary as exciting as any spy thriller, Philipp Grüll and Frank Hofmann look into this and other cases. Documentary, 45 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, German, Spanish; WW, VoD, M, IFE</td>
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<td>384846</td>
<td><strong>“Learn Polish!” – The East German Opposition and Solidarity</strong></td>
<td>In the early 1980s, the courage displayed by members of the Solidarity movement in Poland gave East German opposition figures hope for reform in their own country. There were attempts at support – for example, the hunger strike by some 300 prisoners at a Stasi prison after martial law was proclaimed in Poland. But there were few direct contacts. Our film tells the stories of opposition activists then and now. Documentary, 45 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, German, Spanish; WW, VoD, M, IFE</td>
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<td>384846</td>
<td><strong>The Rebels – Regime Change in East Germany</strong></td>
<td>In 1989, communist East Germany was in uproar, with its citizens increasingly demanding freedom of expression, free elections and political reforms. Involved in illegal peace and civil rights groups, young activists like Catrin Ulbricht, Katrin Hattenhauer and Jochen Lässig faced interrogation and imprisonment. But myriad individual acts of courage grew into the rebellion that spelled the end for East Germany’s communist dictatorship. Documentary, 45 min., 2015, SD; Arabic, English, German, Spanish; WW, VoD, M</td>
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**HISTORY**

![Image of a historical event]
Transit Camp Friedland, Part I and II
For millions of people, arrival at the Friedland camp in Lower Saxony marked the beginning of a new life – or at least some respite from a life on the run. The British military government opened the camp for German refugees and returning soldiers in September 1945. Today, Friedland is a reception center for asylum seekers and refugees. Many have abandoned everything back home and risked their lives to reach Europe. We accompanied some refugees during their stay in the camp and also talked to people who came to Friedland in the early days. All had dramatic stories to tell. “When I meet children from Syria or elsewhere in Friedland today, I am always meeting myself,” says Annelie Keil, who arrived there as an eight-year-old child in 1947. How different are the feelings, experiences and aspirations of the people in this place where so many decades of escape stories intersect?

Documentary, 02 x 45 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, German, Spanish; WW, VoD

The Scent of Home – Encounters in Little Hanoi
It smells of coriander, mint and fish sauce. The Dong Xuan wholesale market in Berlin’s Lichtenberg district is like a mini-version of Hanoi in Germany. The stalls are a meeting place for East and West, Germans, immigrants, tourists and locals alike. “Dong Xuan means spring meadow,” explains Mai-Phuong Kollath, who came from Vietnam to the former East Germany as a contract worker in 1981. Here she buys fresh herbs for her spring rolls. Retailers like Raghbir Singh buy clothes wholesale here. He arrived in West Berlin from Punjab as a student in the summer of 1989. The Sikh is now a grandfather. His children and grandchildren were born in Berlin and only know a unified Germany. Businessman Suat Bakir was eight years old when he arrived from Turkey with his parents. “German reunification was like a wedding to which the immigrants were not invited,” he says. We also meet Elisa Dosse from Mozambique, who lives with her husband in the eastern German city of Dessau. One of her best friends was murdered by neo-Nazis in 2000. They all have their own stories to tell, and all of them are closely linked to Germany. We visit them at home, in Dessau, Hamburg and Rostock, and accompany them to a place where Germany is exotic and different: a place that feels and smells like home.

Documentary, 45 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, French, German, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; WW, VoD, M, IFE
Fake, Stolen – Sold!

There’s a lot of money to be made from art – legally and illegally. Speculators invest in works of art in the hope they appreciate more quickly than property or shares. Experts say that the third largest illegal trade worldwide is in art, behind drugs and arms. Top forgers make a fortune, and many in the international art world turn a blind eye to fraud if it is profitable. Criminals steal works in order to demand a ransom from their owners. Fake, Stolen – Sold! shows just how much criminal energy and human resourcefulness are devoted to making money from art – and how the police and judiciary, scientists and the media seek to put a stop to their game.

Real or Fake? – How Investigators are Catching On

Sometimes it’s paper that’s been made to look old using coffee or tea. Sometimes it’s a substance in the paint that didn’t exist when the original would have been created. Scientists have developed a variety of methods to unmask art forgers.

The Mystery of the Fake Mummy

A “Persian mummy” is discovered in Pakistan. The find turns out to be a fake, one that cost the life of a woman. Investigators set out to discover who the woman was, and who killed her.
Art Beats

Mention culture, and what usually springs to mind is famous writers and composers, great painters and sculptors, celebrated actors and singers. But culture encompasses much more: street musicians and graffiti artists, samba and tango virtuosos, masters of caricature and satire. Culture is vibrant and diverse, international and able to unite nations and peoples.

364795 006
Drawing With Flowers – Nature Artist Nils-Udo
Drawing with flowers, painting with clouds, writing with water – this is the motto of Nils-Udo. The pioneer of the ‘land art’ movement finds his materials in the natural world: stones and twigs, leaves and petals, sand and salt. He processes these elements into pictures, metaphors and symbols – works that are not meant to last forever, but intended for the moment.
Documentary, 30 min., 2012, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; LR

364795 002
Elegance and Passion – The World of Tango
Tango is rhythm. Tango is passion. Tango is elegance. Once you’ve been gripped by tango fever, you’ll soon forget everything else. The dance originated in the 19th century in Buenos Aires and Montevideo. Today, it’s a worldwide phenomenon. But no matter where its practitioners live, they all share one thing: a burning love for the dance and a desire to “lose themselves” in the music.
Documentary, 30 min., 2012, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; LR

364795 013
Flowers of Fire – The Art of Pyrotechnics
The images painted by fireworks in the night sky are called “flowers of fire”. The art of pyrotechnics creates pictures for the moment. But pyrotechnicians also have other talents, creating explosive and dazzling special effects for action movies and stage shows.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; LR

364795 003
New York Graffiti – From Street Art to Collectors Items
His career began in the Bronx in New York, where he daubed his graffiti on walls for the first time. Since then, the German-French artist who goes by the name of Reso has been active in many countries, inspiring a generation of graffiti artists. He is internationally renowned and his works are shown at mainstream galleries. He still paints with the same passion – but these days, almost always on canvas rather than concrete.
Documentary, 30 min., 2012, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; LR
The Art of Space

Green oases in the desert sands. Cool high-rise blocks and mythical gardens. Floating cities and underwater settlements. Skyscrapers and towers. Architecture in a category of its own, employing the most up-to-the-minute construction designs and traditional composition in natural spaces. From the breathtaking to the bizarre, the series The Art of Space shows the incredible variety of spatial experimentation being conducted today. It shines the spotlight on the risks and opportunities presented by the ever-changing face of our world.

564704 003
Très, très chic! – A Tour of Europe’s Most Beautiful Designer Homes
Designers and architects spend their lives styling spaces for others. But what do their personal spaces look like? What is important to them, how do they put their own individual stamp on their personal sphere? Join us on a breathtaking trip across Europe, for an intimate glimpse of the most unusual homes and exclusively designed living spaces that hover somewhere between dream and reality. One thing is certain – it all promises to be très, très chic!
Documentary, 30 min., 2008, SD; Arabic, English, French, Spanish; LR

564704 019
Nature Is Future
Awareness of the need to save energy is growing in Arab Mediterranean nations. That, in part, is in response to climate change and rising energy prices. More and more money is now being spent on the construction of low-energy housing, rather than badly insulated concrete buildings. Prototypes are being developed in many countries.
Documentary, 30 min., 2011, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; LR

564704 023
Courage and Creativity – New Life on an Old Farmstead
It used to be a delapidated old farmhouse in the southern German city of Regensburg – until it was discovered and restored by a group of young people keen to create new spaces for a new way of life. They turned the farmhouse and cowshed into apartments and completed the ensemble with two new semi-detached houses.
Documentary, 30 min., 2012, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

564704 026
Singapore – City of Gardens
The city state of Singapore is just 700 square kilometers in size. Building plots are expensive. But almost 50 percent of the metropolis is actually green – Singapore has no less than 300 parks. Trees and grass are a feature on every street and around residential blocks. This is the result of a meticulous and strictly implemented urban planning concept aimed at making Singapore a city for living, working and playing.
Documentary, 30 min., 2012, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR
564704 027
Building with Light – A Masterpiece of Organic Architecture
The small German town of Löbau is home to one of the most stunning examples of Modernist architecture, Haus Schminke, a villa designed in the early 1930s by Hans Scharoun. The house, full of light and life, is a historical monument of global repute.
Documentary, 30 min., 2013, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564704 028
Gateway to the City – Railway Station Architecture
Railway stations are public places, symbols of mobility and a stage for displays of emotion: farewells and reunions, homesickness and wanderlust. They provide travelers with their first impression of a city. How does railway station architecture pay heed to the building's manifold functions – both in the past and the present?
Documentary, 30 min., 2013, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR

564704 029
Bunkers for Sale – Visions for Relics of the Past
Germany wants to sell its stock of bunkers. But who is going to be interested in buying such problematic structures – windowless, difficult to heat and prohibitively expensive to demolish? Innovative architects are working on new ideas to make the bunkers a more attractive prospect.
Documentary, 30 min., 2013, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

564704 031
Eurozone HQ – The New European Central Bank Building
The European Central Bank HQ is set to be yet another eyecatching feature of Frankfurt's skyline. It comprises new twin polygonal skyscrapers and a huge market hall from the 1920s that will become the main entrance and public area. The architects are Coop Himmelb(l)au of Vienna.
Documentary, 30 min., 2013, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564704 033
Wild Beauty: Berlin's New Center – A Tour of the Government Quarter
Government buildings, parliamentary chambers and corporate offices have filled holes in the German capital made by World War Two, plots that remained undeveloped while Berlin was a divided city. On a tour of the new government quarter, urban planners and architects point out some of the things most of us miss.
Documentary, 30 min., 2013, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, LR

564704 034
Vienna's Old Town – A Living Monument
Vienna's historic center has been a UNESCO World Heritage site since 2001. And that represents quite a challenge for all concerned: how to respect the constraints on construction in a protected historic area while addressing the needs of those living in this city of over a million people. For architects, urban planners and the conservation authorities in the Austrian capital, this means a perpetual balancing act between preservation and progress.
Documentary, 30 min., 2013, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR

564704 036
Treasure in the Debris – Old Doors, Beams and Roof Tiles
More and more people are upcycling and reconditioning used building materials for their homes. Old tiles, metal fittings, doors and floorboards can be full of character and often tell a story, making them an attractive addition to contemporary decor. In fact, some derelict buildings are the scene of what can only be described as full-scale treasure hunts. These days, materials such as beams and doors can fetch a high price.
Documentary, 30 min., 2013, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

564704 037
Life on a Houseboat – Realising the Dream of a Floating Home
The two young architects Amelie Rost and Jörg Niederehe won a highly sought-after berth in the northern German city of Hamburg with a creative design for a houseboat. They put their heart and soul into the realisation of their dream of a life on the water. We filmed the entire process, from the construction of a pontoon in a Hamburg shipyard to the moment the couple moved into their houseboat.
Documentary, 30 min., 2013, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR
Summer Architecture – Lake Wörth Villas
Lake Wörth in southern Austria was a popular holiday resort for well-heeled guests as far back as the mid-19th century. Starting around 1850, many charming villas, mansions, bath- and boathouses were built. A distinctive Lake Wörth style emerged – a mix of regional romanticism, art nouveau, baroque and English country-house architecture.
Documentary, 30 min., 2013, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR

The Work-Life Balance – A House for Three Brothers
Not only do the Mühl brothers work together, they also wanted to live together with their families. So they embarked upon an unusual construction project: Their office as a base with three townhouses on top, offering both privacy and togetherness.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

My Unique Home – Perspectives on Off-Beat Living Spaces
Architects and craftsmen, dreamers and visionaries open the doors to their very special homes. They talk about what motivated them to put down roots in their chosen location. And what they invest in terms of energy and nerves to create their very personal living spaces.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

Logistical Adventure – Relocating an Old Farmhouse
What do you do when you find your dream house, but it’s in the wrong place? You move it. An old Bavarian farmhouse is dismantled bit by bit. Each beam, brick and door is painstakingly numbered and transported to the new location, before being reassembled as before.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

Creative Spaces – From Life Vision to Dream Home
These homes reflect the diverse approaches to life of the people responsible for their conception: A man realizes his dream of living at lofty heights by constructing a huge tree-house. And a couple prepare for a sociable old age by turning a former winery into a house to accommodate several generations.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

From Zurich to Tokyo – In Search of New Ideas for Housing
Tokyo may have 13 million residents, and Zurich may only have 400,000 – but the two cities have one thing in common: both are densely populated, expensive and in need of new approaches to housing. For example, variable units that can be adapted to the different phases of the residents’ lives. Or what are being called ‘cluster’ apartments with small private areas and large communal spaces.
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

A Life Less Ordinary – People and Their Houses
Two German families, two approaches to designing a home. The Pradels commission a new energy-saving house made with modern materials. The Schwarz family, on the other hand, have created their new home in an old barn with thick stone walls.
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

Tadao Ando – Master of Minimalism
Tadao Ando of Japan is a self-taught architect, who is revered worldwide for his work. His buildings are in dialog with their surroundings. The strict geometry of his constructions contrasts with the organic forms of their natural settings. Ando works with a limited range of materials such as wood, glass and concrete.
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
Concrete – A Material in Flux
Ten billion tons of concrete are produced each year. It is a defining feature of the man-made environment. Architects love its versatility and strength. But concrete is still regarded as a cheap building material by many. People who develop new kinds of concrete, who use concrete, and who live in concrete structures, talk about their experiences.
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR

Less is More – Living in Tiny Houses
Some people choose to live in a tiny house because they want to lead a simple life. Others can’t afford anything larger. Nowadays there is even a tiny house movement. One of its founders is Jay Shafer from California. His own living space measures just 10 square meters, and his tiny house designs are enjoying great success.
Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Japanese-Style Weatherproofing – A House of Fire and Glass
For centuries, the Japanese have used charred cedar wood to clad houses. The process makes the siding last lon-ger – cheaply and without the use of any chemicals. The method – Yakisugi – has in the meantime found its way to other parts of the world. In Germany, Simone and Siegfried Ottinger wrapped their dream house in Japanese-style charred wood.
Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, LR

Extravagant and Luxurious – Living in Dream Locations
Who doesn’t dream of living in a beautiful home in a gorgeous location – a cozy farmhouse or a Baroque mansion, perhaps, preferably with a glorious view? Many people would love to take a peek inside other people’s grand houses. A few owners have obliged and opened their doors to our camera teams.
Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

Surrounded by Nature – Architecture in the Mountains
Tourists, nature enthusiasts and winter sports fans are all drawn by the beauty of mountains. Hotels and roads, lifts and ski slopes are built in the midst of spectacular mountainscapes. There is a growing sensitivity on the part of architects about integrating new constructions into their surroundings.
Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR

An Extraordinary Design – The House with the Diagonal Roof
Sometimes, architectural designs fly in the face of building regulations. The Edelmann family wanted their new house to have a flat roof, but the municipality demanded a gable roof. The architects eventually came up with a creative solution that provided more space and higher ceilings than the Edelmanns had ever dreamed of.
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; LR

In Harmony with the Environment – The Buildings of Álvaro Siza
Álvaro Siza is Portugal’s best-known living architect and a recipient of the prestigious Pritzker Prize. The vivid, sculptural quality of his work has earned him international recognition. Siza always considers the surroundings and social context of the buildings he designs.
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Sustainable and Desirable – Future Urban Visions
All over the world, architects are working on prototypes of sustainable buildings as they might appear in the cities of the future. Run-down housing complexes are being brought up to current energy-efficient standards with new materials. One project nearing completion in the Arabian desert is an eco-city powered entirely by renewable energies.
Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; LR
**Immersed in Nature – A Rural Residential Idyll**
On their days off, the Kohlmaier family leave their home in Hamburg to spend time in their country cottage beside a river. Another couple have created their very own paradise in a 200-year-old farmhouse.

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

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**Fernando Abruña Charneco – Pioneer of Eco-Friendly Architecture**
For 40 years, Puerto Rican architect Fernando Abruña Charneco has been meeting the challenges of climate change with innovative designs. When he started out in the 1970s, he was derided as a crank. His Absent House doesn’t have a roof or depend on public water and energy supplies.

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

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**Seamless Assimilation – A Modern House in an Old Town**
The German town of Bamberg boasts a captivating mix of medieval and baroque architecture. When they were commissioned to build a modern flat-roof house close to the old town center, the architects Johannes Müller und Stephan Häublein designed a simple unadorned structure with lots of glass that complements rather than mimics the older buildings near by.

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

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**Build Your Own City – Video Games Influence Urban Planning**
Laying out residential districts and public spaces is usually the work of urban planners. But how can local people get involved when their neighborhood is to be revamped? One starting point is to play videogames such as Minecraft or Block’hood. They serve as a playful introduction to urban planning, and can help make it a democratic process.

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

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**The Fascination of Wood – Rethinking Traditional Timber**
For a long time wood has had a bad reputation as a building material. But preconceptions that it rots and burns easily have now been rendered obsolete: Wood just has to be treated right. Furthermore, it is not only suitable for the construction of individual houses and smaller buildings. These days, wood can also be used for apartment buildings and high-rises.

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

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**Shelter on the Slopes – Mountain Huts in the Alps**
When it comes to turning in for the night, hikers in the European Alps have a variety of shelters to choose among, ranging from traditional wooden structures to futuristic cubes. The Berliner Hut in Tyrol was built in 1878, at a time in which Alpinism was becoming fashionable in Europe. In 1997, it became the first Alpine shelter to be placed under preservation order.

Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR

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**Combining Aesthetics and Functionality – The Architect Otto Wagner**
The architect and urban planner Otto Wagner had a great impact on the appearance of the Austrian capital Vienna. His buildings marked a departure from the ornate and fussy style of historicism. He deployed new materials and created stunningly bold geometric designs. He was both a master of art nouveau and a pioneer of modernism, a rigorous champion of functionalism. He was decades ahead of his time.

Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR
564704 067  
**Antti Lovag: Master of Organic Forms**
The Hungarian architect Antti Lovag called his curvaceous residential structures a “rebellion against the right angle.” In southern France, he realized his vision of living spaces in harmony with nature and the human body with the “Maison Bulles”. Antti Lovag’s radical design approach was even extended to the furniture.  
*Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR*

564704 068  
**Creativity and Comfort: Making Dream Homes Come True**
The owners of these buildings aren’t afraid to take on a challenge: The Finck-Sixt family built their dream home on a miniscule plot of land. The renowned architect Peter Ippolito created a true gem in the form of a house with a floor plan shaped like a slice of cake. And the Blümigs turned an old tobacco barn into a loft flooded with light.  
*Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR*

564704 069  
**Between Europe and the US: In the Footsteps of the Architect Ely Jacques Kahn**
The architect Ely Jacques Kahn helped shape the New York skyline, building close to fifty skyscrapers there over the course of his half-century career. He was influenced in his work by contemporary European architects, in particular Viennese modernism.  
*Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR*

564704 070  
**Room With a View: The Fascination of Towers**
Whether it’s a water tower, castle tower or observation tower, there’s something very appealing about these highly visible and often striking structures. Many bear witness to history; some have been repurposed as unusual homes; one was recently built to test high-tech elevators.  
*Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR*

564704 071  
**Wonderful Wood: A New Look for a Traditional Material**
Handcrafted wooden furniture has shrugged off its fusty image. Today, innovative woodworkers create elegant and sophisticated individual pieces. Nowadays, knotholes and even cracks in the wood are very much on-trend. The more natural and distinctive the look, the better.  
*Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR*

564704 072  
**Total Automation: The Pros and Cons of a Smart Home**
The refrigerator orders your favorite food, the bathroom checks your weight: Smart Living claims to make our lives easier by making things happen automatically. But intelligent homes are still reliant on intelligent users who can master the technology. Take your eye off the ball, and you and your smart home could become the target of cybercriminals.  
*Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR*

564704 073  
**From Village to Metropolis – The Rapid Growth of Cities**
Half the world’s population already lives in cities, and that figure is expected to surge in coming years. In Asia in particular, many mega-cities are experiencing unbridled growth. How can growth be better planned? What makes a city work? What should it offer residents to make it a good place to live?  
*Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR*

564704 074  
**Life on the Water – When Your Home is a Boat**
It’s fashionable these days to live on a house boat – a choice that’s no longer the preserve of individualists and downshifters. You don’t need a plot of land, you live close to nature and, should you wish to, you can simply sail to a different mooring. New-generation house boats are not only aesthetically pleasing, they also come with many luxuries and home comforts.  
*Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR*

564704 075  
**The Architecture of Uniformity – What Future for Shopping Malls?**
The iconic malls of the United States are experiencing a dramatic decline. One third of the nation’s shopping centers have now shut their doors for good. Online trade is just one of the reasons. Another factor is the uniform design of the malls and the standardized stores and products. New ideas are urgently needed for these outdated temples of consumption.  
*Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR*
564704 076
A Logistical Feat – Bridge Building in the Port of Hamburg
The port of the northern German city of Hamburg is home to a giant: the old Rethe Lift Bridge. It’s a key connector for rail and road traffic in one of Europe’s largest shipping hubs. But now the bridge, which dates from 1934, needs to be replaced: by a bascule bridge set to be the biggest in Europe. Port operations need to continue uninterrupted during its construction.
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564704 077
Strolling Among Sharks – The Spectacular Architecture of the Nausicaà Aquarium
The French town of Boulogne-sur-Mer hosts the largest public aquarium in Europe. Visitors to the Nausicaà National Sea Center can marvel at creatures native to all the world’s oceans. The latest tank contains 11,000 cubic meters of water and has a glass underwater tunnel more than 18 meters long, so visitors can literally stroll among sharks, manta rays and other wonders of the seas.
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, LR

564704 078
It’s All in the Detail – Quirky Concepts for Individual Living
An old forester’s lodge is transformed into a vibrant, modern villa. A heated pool with palm trees brings Caribbean flair to a family home in southern Germany. And in a house without any doors, rooms can be created at whim with sliding walls. Often it’s details such as these, combined with strong-willed home-owners set on realizing their ideas against all the odds, that result in a very special ambience.
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564704 079
Venice in Trouble – That Sinking Feeling
Venice is without compare: the city was built in the middle of a lagoon on more than 100 islands connected to one another by more than 400 bridges. Canals serve as streets. The people that built Venice developed unique techniques to erect palaces, churches and houses on unstable ground and protect them from the water. But shipping, mass tourism and more frequent flooding are all damaging the centuries-old structures. What can architects and engineers do now to stop Venice disappearing into the sea?
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, LR

564704 080
Up in the Treetops – Living the High Life
For many, to have a hut up in the branches of a tree is a childhood dream. Treehouses open up new perspectives and are highly fashionable – and not just as holiday accommodation. More and more architects are creating prototypes for innovative, minimalist living in the midst of Nature. They can be very comfortable, supplied with electricity and water. Primarily in areas close to towns and cities, tree- and stilt houses aim to provide an alternative to conventional living.
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR
Architectural Mavericks – Coop Himmelb(l)au
The bold designs of the Vienna-based architectural practice Coop Himmelb(l)au provoke strong – and mixed – reactions. The architects enjoy international success. In their avantgarde designs, roofs become clouds and houses become crystal sculptures. They put up slanting walls, juxtapose horizontal and vertical features, explode surfaces and lines and make angular structures smash into roofs and facades like meteorites.
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, LR

Behind Prestigious Facades – Villas Past and Present
Villas designed by great architects are perhaps the most exclusive places to live. They are intended to convey the wealth, lifestyle and power of their owners. In southwest Germany there are many villas, both classical and modern in style, with colorful back stories. Nowadays, designing a villa often means adding smart technology as well as splendid gardens and a swimming pool.
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Tokyo – Building on Unstable Ground
Tokyo is hit by earthquakes and typhoons several times a year. Architects and urban planners aim to design buildings to withstand the forces of nature. Today, Tokyo is home to the world’s most earthquake-resistant structures with ingenious motion-absorbing features, supporting carbon fiber rods and steel frames. Rooms are suspended from these frames allowing them to move when a quake strikes. Beneath the city, cavernous spaces have been created to take in water in the event of a typhoon.
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, LR

Rising Water Levels – Architecture Responds to Climate Change
Rising sea levels present a global threat to human habitats. The onus is on architects and urban planners to come up with solutions – and some of them look spectacular. Floating platforms supporting buildings, parks or entire cities, for example. Or underwater towns!
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, LR

Second Life – Building with Recycled Materials
The construction process consumes huge amounts of energy and raw materials – and once a building has reached the end of its useful life, it is usually torn down and the rubble discarded. This seems irresponsible at a time of ever dwindling resources. That’s why architects nowadays need to use more materials that have already been recycled or that can eventually be recycled.
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Gems of Architecture and Landscape Art – The Lucca Villas
Many very old villas nestle in the hills surrounding the Italian city of Lucca. With their magnificent gardens, the residences displayed the wealth and social status of their original owners. The giardini segreti, or secret gardens, are masterpieces of Baroque design.
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, LR

New Concepts for Public Spaces – The Architect Boris Podrecca
Boris Podrecca does not limit himself to any particular style. The Vienna-based architect loves variety and the interplay of form, material and color. Podrecca’s special interest lies in the design of public spaces. Whether it be in Istanbul, Belgrade or Vienna, he has created stunning locations for everyday interaction within the urban landscape.
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, LR
Bars and restaurants need to be welcoming places. The moment they enter, guests should feel relaxed and want to stay a while. And that’s down to the architecture and the ambience it creates. These bars and restaurants in New York, Berlin, Amsterdam, Vienna and London have all nailed the winning formula – each in their own very individual way.

Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Innovative and Iconic – The New Skyscrapers
High-rise buildings tend to be thought of as nondescript, featureless and dull. But it doesn’t have to be that way. A number of spectacular new buildings offer proof – for example the two green towers of the Bosco verticale in Milan, or the HoHo timber high-rise structure in Vienna. New building materials and technologies such as 3D printing enable an almost limitless diversity of form to create structures that are perfectly tailored to residents’ needs.

Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Wang Shu – New Builds with a Historical Flavor
Wang Shu’s buildings are a counterweight to the prevalent forms of architecture in China’s urban construction boom. He salvages rubble from demolition sites to create new structures, such as the Xiangshan Campus in Hangzhou and the Ningbo History Museum. His approach translates traditional building methods and materials into contemporary architecture. In 2012, Wang Shu became the first architect in China to win the prestigious Pritzker Prize.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Building with Straw – For Natural Longevity
Natural materials are experiencing a boom in the construction industry. Take straw, for example. An eight-storey apartment building made of wood in eastern France is entirely insulated with bales of straw. They ensure excellent thermal and acoustic insulation – and a pleasant interior climate.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Danish Design – Ecological and Functional
The Danish capital Copenhagen is home to a large number of highly original and ecologically-sound buildings: For example, Green Lighthouse, which is Denmark’s first carbon-neutral public building, and The Mountain residential complex. Danish architects are showing the world how building can be both environmentally friendly and unconventional.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
Arno Brandlhuber – The Appeal of the Abandoned
The architect Arno Brandlhuber pushes the boundaries of the sustainability principle, preferring to work with existing buildings. His ingenious and imaginative designs transform even structures that at first appear unsalvageable into appealing spaces for working and living. When conceiving his prize-winning buildings, he pays particular attention to material minimalism and the social aspects of architecture and urban planning.

Entirely Man-Made – A Hill for Copenhagen
Amager Bakke in the Danish capital Copenhagen is probably the cleanest waste-to-energy plant in the world – and much more besides. It’s possible to ski and hike on the roof, as well as climb on the façade. With his visionary project, Bjarke Ingels has managed to combine modern waste management with spectacular architecture and a public, urban recreational space.

With Courage and Endurance – Realizing a Life Dream
For one young couple it’s love at first sight when they first set eyes on an old tower on top of a listed building. They set out to develop the structure but are almost driven into bankruptcy by its ramshackle roof and rotten beams. The project turns out to be a test of their resilience, as it also is for seven families who embark upon a joint building venture. And for another ambitious pair who tease a light-flooded home out of a gloomy old barn.

Building for the Future – Reinventing Urban Spaces
Global challenges such as dwindling resources, migration and overpopulation are piling the pressure on our coexistence. How can we ensure that cities don’t become sterile and soulless places? How can sustainable building revolutionize the construction industry? Architects, urban planners and academics present their concepts blending architecture, innovative building materials and urban design.

Between City and Country – Side by Side with Nature
Many residents of Munich view the lake-filled regions surrounding the Bavarian capital as the ideal setting for rural living. These areas are dotted with extraordinary structures: from a mini-house with just 30 square meters of living space to an 80-meter-long glass-wrapped concrete sculpture offering 280 square meters. What do these buildings have in common? A proximity to nature and the elements.

An Experiment – The Granite House
It’s an idea never before realized by either architects or craftsmen: a house built almost completely of granite. And the owner, himself the head of a granite plant, would have actually preferred a house made of wood. But then the architect unveiled a concept that blended simplicity and functionality. The builders responsible for assembling the prefab stone walls weighing several tons were astounded by the ingenuity of the design.
564704 102
Frank Lloyd Wright – Master of Organic Forms
To this day, Frank Lloyd Wright is regarded as America’s greatest ever architect. But few are aware of his Welsh roots, or how they informed his world-famous designs. The Welsh architect Jonathan Adams travels across the US in an exploration of Wright’s masterpieces. These include the Guggenheim Museum in New York, the Fallingwater country house, which appears to hover above a waterfall, and Wright’s home Taliesin, the location of his studio and the scene of a tragedy.
Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564704 103
Simple Without, Cozy Within – The House with the Steep Roof
A pair of young architects from southern Germany set out to combine regional building traditions with contemporary techniques to create their dream home. That primarily means plenty of wood, no fussiness and a steep gable roof. The street-side façade is almost completely closed. Light streams into the windowless gallery through strips of glass in the sloping roof. The result: a homey living space for a family that has grown to four members during the project’s realization.
Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564704 104
Temple to Cleanliness - The Kılıç Ali Paşa Hamam in Istanbul
Traditional Ottoman bathhouse culture lives on at the Kılıç Ali Paşa hamam. It is renowned for its stunning architecture and majestic dome. It was built in 1580 by the great Ottoman architect Mimar Sinan – as part of a complex that included a mosque and Koran school. The bathhouse fell into disrepair over the centuries. But now, after a process lasting seven years, it has been restored to its former glory.
Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564704 105
Viennese Style – Designing the Stuff of Dreams
Exploring the architecture of the Austrian capital is a journey through history – from imperial to contemporary. Viennese homes are equally diverse. Behind an unassuming façade, sandwiched between neighboring properties, is the dream home of Alexander Gebhardt: It doesn’t have any windows in its side walls but is nonetheless full of light. Architect Thomas Moosmann built his new house on the outskirts of Vienna with his own hands; it boasts fantastic views of vineyards.
Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564704 106
Mosques – Masterworks of Islamic Architecture
Following the birth of the faith in the 7th century, Islam spread rapidly from the Arabian Peninsula – bringing with it its own places of prayer, mosques. With their ingenious construction techniques, cavernous spaces and sophisticated embellishments, these breathtaking buildings showcase the architectural and artistic talents of the great Muslim dynasties.
Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR
Among the Skyscrapers – Living in Frankfurt am Main

The German city of Frankfurt is an international finance hub famous for its many high-rise office blocks. What’s it like to live in such a dramatic cityscape? The Becker family enjoy an unobstructed view of the skyline from the top floor of their minimalist home. At the other end of the scale, architect Marie-Theres Deutsch has created a light and airy home and office over six floors on a tiny plot.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Inspired by Bauhaus – Tel Aviv’s “White City”

More than 4,000 structures in what’s known as the International Style were built in Tel Aviv between the 1930s and the 1950s. Many of the architects were Jewish Europeans who had emigrated to what was then the British Mandate of Palestine; some had fled the Nazis. They adapted their idea of modern architecture to the hot climate of their new home – and created a unique architectural ensemble that’s been awarded UNESCO World Cultural Heritage status.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

From Derelict Ruin to Dream Home – Tough Renovation Projects

What do an old townhouse with a sandstone façade and a small Baroque castle have in common? Both ooze charm and both require a great deal of creativity and determination if they are to be transformed into dream homes. A married couple and a young family each embark on the challenge that is property renovation.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Attractive and Affordable – Rooftop Homes

The cities of the world are getting ever more crowded. That’s why urban planners are looking for new places to build. For example, famous architects such as Zaha Hadid und Norman Foster have built upwards, designing spectacular roof extensions. As well as small-scale projects involving the addition of one or two storeys, city rooftops could also potentially host larger construction ventures such as social housing.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Living in Hamburg – New Life for Old Buildings

Many of the most sought-after properties in the northern German port city of Hamburg look out onto the water. One that doesn’t is a World War Two bunker that has been converted into a 15-unit apartment building with a communal roof garden. Outside the city, the Hasselburg Estate has been restored and turned into a centre for performing arts and music where visitors can rent lovely holiday apartments.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Reclaiming the City – New Urban Spaces

Decommissioned roads and railway tracks are being turned into parks all over the world. The High Line in New York is a great example. Where cars or trains once roared past, people can now stroll or cycle at a leisurely pace. The aim is to make cities more liveable, to make better use of urban space. Where railway lines go underground, there is more room above ground for parks and homes.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
564704 113
Cable Cars – Alleviating Public Transport Pressure
Urban transport experts consider cable cars an excellent way to enhance mobility, especially where the terrain is hilly or a river slices through a city. Where cars, buses and trains have to follow steep and winding paths, cable cars often go straight to their destinations. Cities in South America are leading the way in adopting the technology. It’s relatively quick and cheap to build the infrastructure, and modern cable cars are fast and stable – even in high winds.
Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR

564704 114
Urban Re-Densification – Sustainable and Sparing with Resources
There are ways to extend existing buildings in sustainable fashion, without using massive amounts of construction material. The quality of life can be enhanced and open spaces retained. For example, rooftops can serve as building plots. Downward expansion can also yield very liveable homes. Examples from London, Berlin and Singapore show how cities can grow with the help of clever and creative ideas.
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564704 115
Modern and Charming – Re-Booting Old Buildings
Two buildings that could hardly be more different: an old farmhouse and a 1930s flat-roofed city bungalow. But when it comes to their renovation, the challenges are similar: to retain as much of the old structure as possible and to create a modern and pleasurable place to live.
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564704 116
The Palaces of Chettinad – India’s Cultural Legacy
The Chettinad region is a treasure trove of Indian architecture, with thousands of palaces spread across 73 villages. These imposing mansions were built in the 19th and early 20th centuries by the Chettiaris, a caste of merchants. The mansions embody architectural influences from East and West and were made of the finest materials. While the owners are doing all they can to preserve this cultural legacy, many of the structures are falling into disrepair.
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564704 117
Complex and Multi-Layered – New Building Landscapes
Large structures that respect and enhance their surroundings while also creating new urban spaces are among the most interesting and innovative architectural statements of our time. The two main buildings of Ewha Womans University in Seoul are mostly below ground level; between them is a long ‘valley’ open to the sky, allowing natural light into the rooms. Both the valley and the rooftop parks are open to the public.
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564704 118
A Life Less Ordinary – Spaces with Character
When non-residential buildings are converted into homes, the interior spaces often need remodelling. In an old factory in Berlin, the architect made the cavernous space feel cosy with the addition of wooden cubes to serve as bedrooms, assembling them like a small village.
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
Awaji Yumebutai – Tadao Ando’s “Stage of Dreams”
Cascades, ponds and flower beds framed in a grid of stone and bounded by flights of concrete steps: Awaji Yumebutai is a Gesamtkunstwerk of architecture and garden. The Japanese architect Tadao Ando designed it as a memorial to the thousands of people killed in the earthquake that struck the small island of Awaji and the nearby city of Kobe in 1995. Located on a steep hillside, the 28-hectare site is a marvelous synthesis of sea, sky, nature and architecture.

Urban Mining – The City as a Source of Raw Materials
Around the globe, the construction industry consumes large amounts of energy and raw materials. Concrete production alone releases huge amounts of CO2. Now, key construction materials like copper and sand are becoming scarce. It’s high time for this industry to try something new: one climate-friendly approach would be recycling and reusing existing materials. Architects, entrepreneurs and designers present their concepts.

The Bridges of Paris – A History of Engineering
Within the city limits of Paris, no less than 37 bridges cross the river Seine. Each bridge tells a story – of the construction technology of its era. While the first bridges were built of wood, later structures made use of stone and steel. The most famous Parisian bridge is probably the lovely Pont Neuf, which has been preserved in its original state. Today, it serves both as a traffic route and a romantic backdrop beloved by locals and tourists alike.

Old Building Material, New Dimensions – Large-Scale Projects Using Wood
When it comes to large-scale building projects, architects and builders often rely on steel, concrete and glass. Increasingly however, wood is the new material of choice. Now, wood is being used not just for cladding and decoration, but in the creation of load-bearing structures designed to last for decades and even centuries. All over the world, people are exploring how even very tall structures that are both stable and delicate-looking can be built out of wood. After all, wood has a much better ecological footprint than other building materials – and it can be regrown.

From Railway Tracks to Public Park – The High Line in New York
The High Line is one of Manhattan’s newest landmarks. An elevated linear park, the High Line stretches for more than two kilometers through Chelsea and the Meatpacking District. Until the 1980s, freight trains ran along the High Line’s tracks. After train traffic shut down here, a citizens’ initiative fought to save this witness to the industrial age from demolition. Instead, they campaigned for it to be turned into an open public space. Architects and gardeners transformed the tracks into a public park popular with New Yorkers and tourists alike.
Wang Shu and Arno Brandlhuber

Innovation and Conservation

Wang Shu is China’s first ever winner of the renowned Pritzker Prize for Architecture. For many years, Arno Brandlhuber has been stirring up the European architectural scene with his innovative approaches.

The two architects have a similar understanding of sustainability: the less that is newly produced and the more use that is made of existing materials, the better the eco-balance of a building. Both are vehement opponents of the current demolition mania.

In many of his structures, such as the Xiangshan Campus in Hangzhou, Wang Shu utilizes bricks from demolished villages. Some of those bricks are centuries old. Traditional craft techniques are practiced on his building sites. Wang Shu designs attractive and comfortable homes for the rural population as a way of stemming mass migration to cities.

Arno Brandlhuber sees potential where others only see ruins. The architect prefers to work with structures that already exist, transforming them into attractive spaces for living and working through ingenious and imaginative design. His processes require minimum material to attain maximum flexibility and usability for the building’s inhabitants.

Wang Shu and Arno Brandlhuber – two extraordinary architects fighting passionately for sustainability principles in architecture.
Ecopia
Intelligent Building, Sustainable Living

Today, more than half the world's population lives in cities. By 2050, the figure will have risen to more than two thirds.

Cities produce huge amounts of greenhouse gases and garbage, and are at the root of many of the world's environmental problems. Energy, water and raw materials are in increasingly short supply. What can we do to halt this trend?

The series Ecopia looks at exciting projects that address key questions: How should we live and work in the future? How should we shape our public urban spaces? How can green architecture provide new impetus for urgently needed ecological reforms?

364792 002
Worlds of Knowledge

School buildings made of locally-sourced clay in Burkina Faso, with a sophisticated roof construction and a passive ventilation system that uses no electricity. A university campus in South Korea that has been partially sunk into the ground to blend in with the landscape of an existing park. And a virtually planned science lab in Germany that is carrying out research into work environments of the future. These three sustainable projects from Africa, Asia and Europe in the education sector invite imitation.

364792 004
The Sky's the Limit

The number of skyscrapers currently at planning or construction stage has never been greater. These buildings are becoming steadily more luxurious, imposing, taller and more robust. But architects are increasingly required to consider the environmental impact of their designs. The key question here is how to build in a manner that is simultaneously effective, efficient and ecologically sound. A sustainably built high-rise block costs around 10 percent more than a conventional one. But in view of rising energy prices, this investment pays for itself in just a few years. When assessing how to improve the green credentials of our towns and cities, the skyscrapers of the future are representative of the need to consider ecological and economic principles in equal measure.

364792 001
Eco-Cities

Hamburg’s Hafencity and the Tianjin Eco-City have been praised as models of sustainable urban planning. A huge stretch of derelict dockland along the Elbe river in Hamburg is being redeveloped to create vibrant new city neighborhoods. It is currently Europe’s largest building site. The Tianjin Eco-City in eastern China is being built on undeveloped land. The plan is to try out eco-friendly technologies that can help slash energy consumption in China’s cities.
Modern Culture Temples

Museums, concert halls, theaters and libraries enjoy high status throughout the world. They are all landmarks of a town or city and define its cultural identity. As well as being important factors in the competition to attract international tourists, they also provide local people with a place to gather and exchange ideas. And if their architectural design is spectacular and avant-garde, these buildings hold a very special appeal.

Tourism Goes Green

The tourism industry is viewed worldwide as an important economic factor with considerable growth potential. But more and more people are concerned about the environmental impact of their holidays. This has led to more sustainable architecture for tourist facilities. For example, in the east African nation of Rwanda, work is underway on two hotels distinguished by their innovative ecological approaches, cooperation with local partners and a design that reflects local traditions. On the Indonesian island of Bali, designers have created a holiday complex that aims to combine luxury with ecological principles. Materials have been sourced from the region; the ceilings are made of bamboo from certified plantations. The water recycling quota within the complex is at 80 percent, and most of the staff have been recruited from nearby villages.
Two artists who embodied the ideal of the Renaissance man were Lucas Cranach the Elder (1472–1553) and his son Lucas Cranach the Younger (1515–1586). They were among the most successful painters of the 16th century, working as court painters and immortalizing Martin Luther and the Reformation in their paintings. They also ran printing workshops, were paper wholesalers, had a pharmacy license and were mayors of the renowned university city of Wittenberg. In Cologne, the Cranachs’ work is being digitized – a treasure trove for professionals and art lovers. The Cranach Digital Archive (CDA) makes it possible to zoom in on even the tiniest figures or the fine networks of cracks in painted faces. Our film follows in the Cranachs’ footsteps and provides an insight into the lives, work and times of the famous family of painters.

With its 17,000 islands, 800 languages and 300 ethnic groups, Indonesia is a nation of superlatives. And one that is still searching for a common identity. After 350 years of Dutch colonial rule, decades of regional independence wars and a military regime that cost the lives of a million people, the country has yet to look its past squarely in the eye. For many years, a number of courageous writers have been agitating for this process to begin, by tackling subjects that still remain shrouded in silence: As a student in the 1990s, Linda Christanty from Jakarta joined the movement to topple Suharto. Azhari Aiyub from Banda Aceh writes about the region’s past struggle for liberation and coping with the aftermath of the tsunami. Oka Rusmini lives on the island of Bali. She describes the constraints of the Hindu caste system. Through their work, all three give a voice to the weak.
Ai Weiwei Drifting

Ai Weiwei is one of the most provocative artists of our time. At home in China, he was subjected to surveillance, detention and house arrest. He was able to leave in 2015 and now lives in Berlin. In his recent work, he takes Europe to task for what he considers its disastrous refugee policy. He turns his despair and anger into art and protest.

A solitary rubber dinghy floats in the Aegean between Turkey and Greece. Ai Weiwei cowers inside the boat. He cannot swim. What is the message? “We are all refugees,” the artist says. He has created memorials in museums and public spaces out of boats, lifejackets and clothes abandoned on Europe’s beaches.

The film gets close to Ai Weiwei, illuminates his work, and also gives a rare glimpse into his private life – with his mother in Beijing, with his son and partner in Berlin. Nevertheless, he remains a mysterious figure in many respects. Just who is Ai Weiwei?
The Mystery Conman
The Murky Business of Counterfeit Antiques

For years, a talented fraudster smuggled counterfeit antiques onto the art market. No one knew who the person was but workshops in southern Europe aroused suspicion. Experts have therefore named the fraudster the “Spanish master.” The documentary follows German archaeologist Stefan Lehmann, who’s been on the shark’s tail. Around 40 counterfeits have been discovered so far, but he thinks it’s only the tip of the iceberg. Lehmann hasn’t made himself popular, as the subject of counterfeiting tends to get swept under the rug within the art trade and museums. A Swiss collector was the first to break the silence. He gave Lehmann access to a bronze head of Emperor Augustus, which he had bought for several hundred thousand dollars in New York. It’s an exciting case for Lehmann. Will his examinations prove that the head is fake? Auction houses and galleries know exactly what they’re selling, according to Christoph Leon, an art dealer from Basel who’s working with Lehmann. He says the market is full of fakes because antique sculptures fetch high prices among investors. This film follows a trail of dirty dealings and gives an insight into the secretive world of the antiques trade.
The Fate of Books in the Digital Era

For centuries, the book has been the vehicle and symbol of knowledge and intellect. But it has now been caught up in the digital revolution. Reading from a screen has become widespread. Online retailers of E-books are replacing bookstores, and putting publishers under pressure. Data about E-reading habits are being captured and analyzed, leaving readers vulnerable to manipulation. What is the value of the book in the digital age? How different are the approaches in Germany, where movable type was invented, and in the US, the pioneer of digitalization?

Global Beethoven

Cello and Horsehead Fiddle

What does it sound like when Germany’s National Youth Orchestra (BJO), plays music by the Chinese-Mongolian avant-garde composer Zulan? Zulan, who comes from Inner Mongolia, composed an opulent piece for the BJO and her own ensemble Mongolism. It’s called Amila and describes the dance of the shaman that gives mankind a new soul. While the BJO’s role is to set the scene, recreating the natural world, the shrubs, the mountains, Mongolism’s role is to relate the story. The film charts the journey of Zulan and the orchestra, beginning with the first encounter in Germany. Then there is the BJO’s concert tour of China, the second meeting with Zulan in Beijing and the first rehearsal of her music. And finally, the premiere of Amila at the 2015 Beethoven Festival in Bonn, where the German National Youth Orchestra and Mongolism perform together on the same stage for the first time.
Peter Lindbergh has taken pictures of countless supermodels and stars, and has become a star in his own right for his artistry and boldness as a photographer. His approach to fashion photography is very individual – and has been hugely influential. He establishes a very personal relationship during photo shoots. His talent at getting people to open up and at capturing them at a single, particular moment, is what makes his pictures so special. Vogue magazine selected his iconic photo of supermodels in white shirts as the most memorable image of the 1990s.

Lindbergh has a particular fondness for black-and-white photography, which he feels often conveys a particular kind of melancholy. His photos blend an avantgarde aesthetic with the unpretentious style of the down-to-earth person that is Lindbergh. The result: realistic portrayals that allow for the odd flaw.
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Cities Reinvented

Before long, most of the world’s population will be living in cities. If megacities are to be in a position to tackle the challenges represented by overcrowding, overburdened infrastructure, energy provision and climate change, appropriate structures need to be established. Whatever is planned or built today will determine whether cities will be good places to live in the future or whether they will collapse under the strain. The series shines a light on innovative architectural and urban-planning projects in New York, Tokyo and Singapore that can be considered exemplary responses to some of those challenges.

### 001 New York: Time for an Upgrade

Manhattan may be one of the world’s liveliest and richest places, but it is a slender island just 21 kilometers long and very crowded. Its buildings have been getting taller and taller. Many buildings from previous centuries need to be upgraded or replaced. The infrastructure is also severely strained. So large-scale eco-friendly redevelopment is on the cards, as is the creation of neighborhoods that are pleasant places to live and work. New York will need to stand its ground as cities compete for the best and the brightest.

### 002 Tokyo: The Urban Village Concept

The Greater Tokyo Area is the world’s most populous metropolitan region, and it is continuing to grow at a fast pace. The cost of housing is astronomical. This forces hundreds of thousands of people to commute long distances to work; their daily travel time can be several hours. Urban-planning solutions are urgently needed to prevent Tokyo from choking on its own growth. Strategies include raising density, promoting shared housing and micro-homes, and investing in ‘urban villages’, neighborhoods where people can live, work and spend their leisure time. That would reduce the number of commuters and improve the quality of life.

### 003 Singapore: Embracing Nature

Singapore is arguably the world’s most modern metropolis. The small island state with a growing population needs to plan land use and construction carefully. It is committed to sustainable development and to maintaining the city’s greenery. The climate is tropical, so ways to keep buildings cool and cool open spaces are a priority. Singapore has become a pioneer in eco-friendly energy-saving urban development. The regulations are stringent: any green space lost when a new building goes up must be replaced somewhere else – for example on the façade or on the roof. The city is creating a new generation of green skyscrapers that harvest rainwater and run on solar power.

**Interview partners include:**

- Sou Fujimoto, Sou Fujimoto Architects
- Kenneth A. Lewis, Skidmore, Owings & Merrill
- Ole Scheeren, Büro Ole Scheeren
- Kengo Kuma, Kengo Kuma & Associates
- Christoph Ingenhoven, Ingenhoven Architects
- Ken Hasebe, Mayor of Tokyo-Shibuya
- Elizabeth Diller, Diller Scofidio & Renfro
- Charu Kokate, Safdie Architects
- Adele Tan, Singapore Urban Redevelopment Authority
- Lin Bolt & Richard Hassell, WOHA Architects
- Renzo Piano, RPBW Architects
- Prof. Takayuki Kishii, Consultant, Masterplan Tokyo, Nihon University
- Prof. Hideo Takahashi, Urban Meteorologist, Tokyo Metropolitan University
- Yeo Meng Tong, Senior Director Design Research and Development, National Parks Board Singapore
- Eugene Kohn & William Pedersen, Kohn Pedersen Fox
- Satoshi Kurosaki, APOLO Architects & Associates
Berlin’s Treasure Trove
The Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation

Berlin is home to an outstanding treasure trove, the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation. It is one of the five largest encyclopedic collections in the world, comprising 19 museums with more than five million objects, a huge library, archives and research institutes, covering a vast range of cultures, artforms and epochs from the Stone Age to the present day.

Scholars and visitors explore this collection for answers to the burning questions facing humankind: How can we tap the resources of the Earth while also living in harmony with it? How can we deal responsibly with our history? How can our cultural heritage help us to understand and shape reality?

Berlin’s museums are not just centers of research and temples of beauty, they also reverberate with countless fascinating stories.
The Search for Perfection

Islamic Garden Design

In Islamic tradition, gardens and leafy courtyards are a foretaste of paradise. They are places to find shade and to rest, places for families and friends to gather. But the typical features of such gardens were developed much earlier: 2,500 years ago, the kings of Persia commissioned magnificent palace gardens, bursting with fragrant flowers and shrubs, cooled by watercourses, pools and fountains, and surrounded by high walls. Pavilions and trellises provided shade and dappled sunlight. The kings' engineers created underground channels to bring water from faraway sources.

These palace gardens stood in stark contrast to the arid and inhospitable landscape that surrounded them. With their symmetry and opulent vegetation, they were seen as ideal images of nature. It is no coincidence that ideas of paradise in Judaism, Christianity and Islam were informed by such gardens. Whether on a grand scale, as the imposing park of a ruler's palace, or on a more modest scale as the courtyard of a merchant's house – this kind of garden spread, along with Islam, to the Arabian Peninsula, Central Asia, North Africa, Spain and the Indian subcontinent. While remaining true to its basic principles, it developed in different ways in each region.

The gardens in Morocco's oases and coastal towns are often embellished with splendid architectural elements, colorful ceramics and decorative metalwork. In India, under the Muslim Mughal emperors, many impressive parks were laid out, with huge ornamental pools. One famous example is at the Taj Mahal in Agra. In medieval Spain, horticulture flourished during the era of Moorish rule: For centuries, the opulent palace gardens of the Alhambra in Granada were also an inspiration to architects of Christian rulers. And in Arabia, the planners of public parks adhere to ancient tradition to this day: Fountains and streams with rippling water, trees that provide shade, and aromatic herbs are seen as indispensable features in spaces that offer the inhabitants of densely built-up cities relief from the heat and the hustle and bustle of everyday life.
What do escalators in Medellín, Arabic lettering in Amman, story-telling furniture from London, urban farming in Detroit and a co-living complex in Tokyo have to do with the Bauhaus?

The architect Walter Gropius founded the Bauhaus in Weimar in 1919. He brought together some of the most illustrious artists in Europe to create a school that would fuse the fine arts and the crafts. Together, they set out to fundamentally rethink the world and society. Although the Bauhaus school – which later relocated to Dessau and then to Berlin – only existed for a few years, it revolutionized ideas about the organization of modern life.

In 2019, the Bauhaus will celebrate the 100th anniversary of its founding. To mark the occasion, planetfilm has produced a series of three documentaries for Deutsche Welle. The films focus on the influence that the philosophy of the Bauhaus movement still exerts on the globalized society of the 21st century. They also explore historical parallels between 1919 and the present day: Society is facing major upheavals and challenges, just as it did back then.

We meet architects, urban planners, designers and artists from around the globe who, in the spirit of the Bauhaus, want to rethink and change the world. Tatiana Bilbao, for example, is a Mexican architect who has designed an 8,000-dollar house for the poorest members of society. The designer Ahmed Humeid is working on plans to bring order to the traffic chaos of the Jordanian capital Amman. How and where will the world’s burgeoning population live in future? Minimalistically and collectively in tiny spaces, as the German architect Van Bo Le-Mentzel envisages it? Or maybe even on Mars? British star architect Sir Norman Foster has drawn up designs for a settlement there.

Segments on the history and philosophy of the Bauhaus provide context and background to some of today’s most pressing issues.
The series of documentaries

384902 001 The Code
What is the secret of the Bauhaus's success?

384902 002 The Effect
How were Bauhaus principles developed further?

384902 003 The Utopia
A good life for all?

Protagonists include:

Jennifer Goggans, Dancer, USA
Sir Norman Foster, Architect, UK
Mateo Kries, Vitra Design Museum, Germany
Tatiana Bilbao, Architect, Mexico
Yinka Ilori, Furniture Designer, UK
Claudia Perren, Bauhaus Dessau Foundation, Germany
Mio Tsuneyama, Architect, Japan
Martino Stierli, Curator for Architecture and Design at MoMA New York, USA
Sharon Golan-Yaron, Conservation Architect, Israel
Jan Gerner, Typographer, Germany
Annemarie Jaeggi, Bauhaus Archive Berlin, Germany
Amor Muñoz, Artist, Mexico
Christoph & Manuel Goller, Product Designers, Germany
Eva Maria Rönnebäck, IKEA, Sweden
Alexander von Vegesack, Art Collector, France
Kasia Kucharska, Fashion Designer, Germany
Gary Wozniak, Recovery Park Detroit, USA
Jürgen Mayer H., Architect, Germany
Ahmad Humeid, Designer, Jordan
Van Bo Le-Mentzel, Architect, Germany
How to Bauhaus

Furniture Tutorials with Van Bo Le-Mentzel

These tutorials show viewers how to make all kinds of practical furniture simply, quickly and cheaply. The designs adhere to the fundamental tenets of the Bauhaus movement, which stipulate that they should be useful, aesthetically pleasing and affordable. Architect Van Bo Le-Mentzel explains which materials and tools are required and, by providing step-by-step instructions, makes the entire process accessible to even the most inexperienced DIY practitioners. All the pieces of furniture are inspired by iconic works from the Bauhaus, the most important German design school of the 20th century.

324907 001 Study Desk
Open design for a new society

324907 002 Lounge Chair
Just what people need

324907 003 Table Lamp
New light for new ideas

324907 004 Wooden Stool
Less is more

324907 005 Basic Block
Standardization and flexibility

324907 006 Tube Shelf
Industrial production
Bauhaus Clips

324908

**Bauhaus in 60 Seconds**
One clip for each of the three Bauhaus films “The Code”, “The Effect” and “The Utopia” to answer the questions at the heart of the episodes.

324908 001

**What Is Bauhaus?**
Bauhaus is composed of many different ideas and values. Harmony, innovation, functionality, creativity, freedom, intuition, community, accessibility and fairness – all this is what Bauhaus is about.

324908 002

**Where Can We Find Bauhaus?**
Even 100 years after the founding of the Bauhaus school, its effects can still be felt around the world in architecture, fashion, technology, art, dance, industry and typography.

324908 003

**Why Care About Bauhaus?**
How we utilize the spaces we live in has strong implications for our present and our future. Democracy, humanity, nature – all are under threat and smart design might be the only thing that can save us.

The Spirit of Bauhaus
Meet three creative individuals who keep the spirit of the Bauhaus alive.

324908 004

**Space to Develop: Norman Foster**
The world-renowned architect dares to envisage the future. There's so much space left to develop right here, to optimize our societies, adapt to imminent threats and better our lives.

324908 005

**Follow Your Gut: Yinka Ilori**
Always on the lookout for vintage furniture that he can upcycle, Yinka Ilori transforms his finds into a functional piece of art, inspired by the traditional Nigerian parables and African fabrics that surrounded him as child.

324908 006

**Design = Bauhaus: Jan Gerner**
When German graphic designer Jan Gerner traveled to Jordan, he developed the official “Amman font”. It represents both Arabic and Latin lettering equally well and adorns the capital's many street signs, public vehicles and buildings.

The Bauhaus Philosophy
Our great minds of today find new solutions for tomorrow inspired by the ideas of the Bauhaus. Our shared desire for utopia is what propels innovation and inspires us to pull together.

324908 007

**Driving Innovation: Saving Mayan Tradition**

324908 008

**Form and Function: IKEA**

324908 009

**A Better Life for All: Elevating the Favelas**
Unlocking the Past

Wherever people live, they leave traces behind them. Some of these are temporary, others survive the test of time. What we know about the history of humanity we owe to such traces: impressive buildings; magnificent works of art, music and literature; great achievements in the fields of science and technology – but also everyday objects, transit routes, the remains of settlements or ritual sites. All over the world, scientists are investigating the often hidden traces of past eras and cultures. They preserve the remains of the past for the future, and explore the wide range of human activity over many millennia.

364763 002
The Queens of Meroë – The Forgotten Kingdom on the Nile
From the 3rd century B.C., a self-assured state emerged on the site of contemporary Sudan that determined the fortunes of the region for seven centuries. Heavily influenced by African traditions, an advanced civilization increasingly distinct from the rest of Ancient Egypt developed in the capital Meroë. This was a matriarchal society in which women played a decisive role, even ruling as queens.
Documentary, 30 min., 2010, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; IFE, LR

364763 008
Persepolis – Vision of a World Empire
In the year 520 B.C., the Persian King Darius I started work on the construction of a new capital. Persepolis became one of the most magnificent cities of antiquity. Then in the year 330 B.C. it was destroyed by the army of Alexander the Great, King of Macedonia. Now an Iranian and a German architect have created a virtual reconstruction of Persepolis, using urban-planning software.
Documentary, 30 min., 2011, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; IFE, LR

364763 009
Naples Underground – The Catacombs of the Old City
The ancient city of Neapolis, founded by the Greeks, is located directly below the old town of Naples. The site can now be accessed via passageways discovered by the Italian cave explorer Enzo Albertini.
Documentary, 30 min., 2011, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; IFE, LR

364763 023
The Thuringians – An Enigmatic Equestrian Tribe
In the 5th and 6th centuries, the West Germanic Thuringians were one of the most powerful tribes between the Rhine and the Danube. Not much is known about them. But during roadworks in central Germany one of their burial sites came to light. Among the dead were several horsemen. The burial objects provide a rare insight into the lives of people in the Thuringian Kingdom.
Documentary, 30 min., 2013, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; IFE, LR

364763 027
Ice Age Masterpieces
Ice Age people were perhaps not as different from us as we might think, given the spectacular archeological finds made in a group of caves in southwest Germany. The ornaments, statuettes and musical instruments are among the world’s very oldest known works of art. They are testament to the skills, intelligence and creativity of people living 40,000 years ago.
Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; IFE, LR
364763 028
**The Secret of the Spanish Ship**
Despite its name, the career of the “Triunfante” was far from glorious. In 1795, the Spanish battleship ran aground in the Bay of Roses on the northern Spanish Mediterranean coast and was abandoned. As they examined the wreck, archeologists discovered the man-of-war embodied innovations in shipbuilding technology they had read about but never seen before. So, after more than two centuries, it emerged triumphant after all.
Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

364763 029
**Naqa – Uncovering an Advanced Civilization in Sudan**
Naqa was a settlement in the ancient Kingdom of Kush in what is today Sudan. Kushite temples and palaces are evidence of an advanced culture contemporaneous with the Ptolemaic Kingdom in Egypt and the Roman Empire. While the influence of the Egyptians, Romans and Greeks is evident, Kushite culture was distinctive. The archeologists using the latest technology to explore Naqa say the history of the ancient world will have to be rewritten in the wake of their findings.
Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; LR

364763 030
**Troy: The Truth behind the Myth**
As the legend would have it, the Greeks were only able to capture Troy because they lured the Trojans into a trap. Pretending to sail away after a long siege, the Greeks left behind a large wooden horse, which the Trojans dragged into their city as a trophy of war. A select group of Greek soldiers were hiding in its belly. Once they’d crept out, the soldiers opened the city gates allowing the Greek army access. It’s a fable familiar to many. But is there any truth in it?
Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

364763 031
**When Humans Began to Settle**
For a long time, human beings were nomadic hunters and gatherers. 12,000 years ago they started settling in one place, occupying themselves with farming and livestock breeding. This societal upheaval is known as the Neolithic Revolution, a period of radical change that impacts upon our lives to this day.

364763 032
**The Cultural Legacy of the Neolithic Age**
Structures erected by Stone Age man were buried over the course of the millennia. The elements have brought their remains to light. But what was the significance of these monumental stone complexes? How did people manage to construct them with the limited technical capabilities of the era?
Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

364763 033
**The Djehuty Mystery: Exploring an Ancient Egyptian Cemetery**
Archeologist José Manuel Galán and his team have been researching the story of a man named Djehuty, an important and high-ranking ancient Egyptian official during the rule of the female pharaoh Hatshepsut. Their excavations at the Dra Abu el-Naga necropolis near Luxor have yielded astonishing insights into life 3,500 years ago.
Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, LR

364763 034
**The Last Frozen Tombs on Earth**
The last frozen tombs on Earth are located in the Altai Mountains of Mongolia. The permafrost protects the secrets of the Eastern Scythians who lived here 3,500 years ago. But global warming could scotch archeological exploration and destroy the last remaining evidence of an ancient culture. Who were the Eastern Scythians and what did they leave behind?
Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, LR
The Mystery of Ethiopia’s Megaliths
Several thousand phallic stelae are distributed across a large area in southern Ethiopia. Some of them are up to eight meters tall and weigh several tonnes. The only thing researchers know for certain is that these monumental objects date from between the 10th and 13th centuries AD. But who made them and put them there? What purpose did they serve? Archeologists are carrying out excavations at several sites in southern Ethiopia in a bid to solve the mystery.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021 HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

The Treasure in a Celtic Tomb
An Iron Age Celtic prince was buried in Lavau in northern France two and a half thousand years ago. The discovery of his grave proved sensational because of the magnificent treasures buried with him. These included a chariot, gold jewelry and decorated banquet utensils. Some of the burial objects were of Greek and Etruscan origin, which means they must have been transported thousands of kilometers before being buried alongside the dead man. What do they tell us about the Celts’ power structures, trading relations and funerary rituals?

Documentary, 30 min., 2021 HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Between Desert and Oasis: The Pre-Islamic Culture of Oman
The Rub’ al Khali or “Empty Quarter” is the largest sand desert in the world. It’s hard to imagine humans ever settling in such an inhospitable place. But around five thousand years ago in today’s Oman, people lived in the desert’s few oases. Who were they? How did they adapt to the increasing aridity? The archeological excavation of a monumental tower in Salut tells us a great deal about their water management system. And finds from the Mudhmar temple complex show that water was also a key element in pre-Islamic ritual practices.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021 HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Druids: The Celtic Priests of the Iron Age
The Druids were religious leaders and dignitaries who passed on their secret knowledge in purely oral form. This makes it difficult to study their beliefs and practices, allowing plenty of scope for myths about mistletoe, magic potions and human sacrifice. Archeologists began a thorough investigation of the Celtic priests’ status, roles and actions just a few years ago. Their insights challenge the portrayal of the Druids in popular culture as bearded wise men in white robes cutting down mistletoe with a golden sickle. Archeological finds in Europe paint a different picture and even suggest that Druids weren’t just men.

Documentary, 30 min., 2021 HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Neanderthals – Our Distant Relatives
Neanderthals walked the Earth before homo sapiens, living on the vast ice-covered plains of the Eurasian continent. This archaic human subspecies withstood dramatic environmental flux for 300,000 years. The most recent archeological finds and paleontological studies show that Neanderthal populations survived because of their ability to adapt. How smart were the Neanderthals? Were they capable of structured thought? Did they have languages? How did they live, before eventually becoming extinct after intermingling with homo sapiens around 40,000 years ago?

Documentary, 30 min., 2021 HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
The Hunt for Sunken Treasure
Archeologists estimate that there are around three million shipwrecks on the ocean floor. More than 3,500 of these vessels could have gone down with cargos of gold, silver and other valuable objects. For a long time, many of the wrecks have been out of our reach, but with the help of modern deep-sea robots and hi-tech locating technology, their treasures are now within our grasp. But to whom do they belong? The finder? The country that owns the waters where the ship was discovered? The home nation of the original ship owner? Or UNESCO? Rising demand for precious metals and personal greed drive the race to retrieve ancient cargo from the bottom of the sea. Invaluable artifacts are at ever greater risk.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022 HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

IT-Archeology: Virtually Cloned Temples in Bagan
Bagan was a key pilgrimage site in Asia for centuries. Today, the former royal city in Myanmar is a stunning archeological treasure: More than 2,000 preserved sacred buildings attest to the zenith of Buddhist culture between the 11th and the 13th centuries. But the brick temples are fragile. Many of them were destroyed in a 1975 earthquake. They are being resurrected with the help of drones, robots and laser scanners by young archeologists and architects who aim to recreate this ancient cultural heritage in the virtual realm.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022 HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

The Legacy of the European Neolithic Era
In the Neolithic period, people in central and western Europe built houses on stilts on the edges of lakes and swamps. Rising water levels meant that many of these villages were abandoned. But traces from that time remain preserved to this day organic matter conserved in waterlogged environments. Nutchells, skeins of cord, wickerwork and shoes are just some of the items preserved for thousands of years. With astonishing precision, modern-day archeologists are able to determine the age of these everyday objects and build on their knowledge of what life was like in the Neolithic era.

Documentary, 30 min., 2022 HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR

Narbo Martius: Rome's Eldest Daughter
Narbonne, a quiet provincial town in southern France, was once one of the most powerful cities in the Roman Empire. In the first century B.C., it was known by the name of Narbo Martius and was the first Roman colony in Gaul, described as exquisitely beautiful by the writers of the day. Today, a necropolis and the remains of a large port complex testify to the huge wealth of what was once a key Mediterranean trading hub. Archeologists are putting Rome's eldest daughter Narbo Martius back on the map.

Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
The Queens of Saqqara

Saqqara, on the western bank of the Nile, is home to the largest group of ancient Egyptian tombs. Two of the pyramids were for queens who lived more than four thousand years ago, Behenu and Ankhesenpepi II. The walls of their burial chambers are filled with columns of hieroglyphic texts. Such texts, intended to help the dead secure eternal life in the sky with the gods, were usually reserved for male rulers. Why were these women deemed worthy of the honor? Archeologists are working to piece together details of their lives and reveal their secrets.

Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

The Stone Age Village of Ba’ja – A Child’s Grave Writes History

Around 9,000 years ago, people on the Ba’ja plateau in Jordan founded one of the world’s first known settlements. A few years ago, archeologists unearthed 2,500 handmade beads in the tomb of a girl there. The beads were part of an elaborate necklace buried with her. The necklace and other carefully crafted grave goods are evidence of a major development in the Neolithic period: Because their food supply was secure, these people could afford to invest time in aesthetic pursuits such as jewelry-making. The nomadic hunter-gatherer way of life had been consigned to the past.

Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR

The Moment of Death – The Plaster Casts of Pompeii

The eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 A.D. destroyed the Roman city of Pompeii, covering everything with layers of molten rock, pumice and ash. Once the victims’ bodies had rotted away, all that remained in most cases were cavities in human form. In the 19th century, archeologists filled these cavities with plaster, then chipped away the surrounding volcanic material, to create chilling “sculptures” of people at the very moment of death. But time has taken its toll on the casts and now researchers are looking to modern technology to preserve them. Ancient skeletons have also been found, and archeologists are taking samples of DNA, which they hope will reveal new information about the residents of ancient Pompeii.

Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

The Inca and Their Empire: Reconstructing an Advanced Civilization

The Inca ruled western South America from the 13th to the 16th centuries. They built cities with imposing architecture and an extended network of roads covering more than 30,000 kilometers. What remains of their vast empire is evidence of a highly developed civilization. Who were the Inca and how did they succeed in uniting more than 200 ethnic groups in a single nation? Archaeologists, historians and descendants of the Inca are attempting to piece together an accurate picture of this long-lost empire.

Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Golden Treasure from the Rhône – The Enigmatic Barge of Arles

An ancient boat was discovered on the bottom of the river Rhône near the French city of Arles. It was carrying a cargo of gold. Arles was a major trading center in the Roman Empire in the 4th century. The many gold coins found in the wreck date from that time. Who was expecting this special delivery? Battling powerful currents and low visibility on the riverbed, divers and archeologists assembled pieces of the puzzle. It turns out, the barge and its cargo are evidence of nothing less than a case of fratricide.

Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
It’s Christmas!

304958
Documentary,
03 x 30 min.,
2023, HD;
English, Spanish

Diverse
Clips,
17 x 03–05 min.,
English

824869
Report,
02 x 12 min.,
Arabic, English,
German, Spanish

304958 001
The Real Story of Santa
The Father Christmas story is a blend of pagan rituals and the legend of Saint Nicholas of Myra, born around 270 A.D. in Anatolia. Nicholas was said to have performed many miracles. After his death, his remains were taken to Italy and France. He became known as a protector of children and the patron saint of several European cities. As legend would have it, every year on December 6 he would take to the streets and give out presents and sweets to well-behaved children. The Dutch called him Sinter Klaas, and emigrants from The Netherlands took his story with them to America. In the 19th century, a group of writers and artists in New York City created the modern Father Christmas: a jolly, round old man with a white beard and a red coat who comes down the chimney with a bag of gifts. And this is how most of the world knows him today: An icon of pop culture and hero of consumerism.

Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

304958 002
The Taste of Christmas: Traditional Viennese Baking
Christmas is a time to forget the waistline for a bit and indulge in a few sweet treats. Homes are filled with the smells of baked goods flavored with dried fruits and warming spices. European Christmas baking traditions have a long history with origins in pagan customs. But in the early days, sugar was a luxury and only the wealthy could afford to eat such delicacies. Today, Viennese confectioners’ windows at Christmastime are a veritable showcase of Austrian baking culture: from stollen to vanilla crescent cookies, Linzer cookies to meringues, gingerbread to Tyrolean fruit bread. Some pastry chefs still use recipes handed down through generations of bakers – secrets they will never divulge.

Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, M, LR
More than 200 years ago, a song was written to bring comfort and hope at Christmas time. Over the years, “Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht” (Silent Night, Holy Night) has become a hymn for peace sung in 300 languages and dialects worldwide. Few other songs can claim such immense global fame – although hardly anyone knows the names of its creators, Franz Xaver Gruber and Joseph Mohr! What's so special about this simple melody and the six verses? “Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht” was written in the 19th century at a time of great hardship and hunger in the Salzburg region. After the Napoleonic wars and several bitter winters, people were struggling to survive. Historians explain how the song reached the U.S. via Russia and Germany and eventually captivated the world. In 2011, “Silent Night” was even included on UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage List.

Additional Christmas content:

*Life and Style | Euromaxx*
Clips, 03 - 05 min., HD; English; WW, VoD, M, IFE

521147 403 Christmas Tradition: Nuremberg Gingerbread
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521152 293 Herrnhut Stars: An Export Hit from Saxony
521152 294 Rent-a-Tree
521152 295 The World's Largest Hand-Carved Nativity Scene?

824869 156 O Christmas Tree!
World Issues | Full Report Zoom:
For many families, fetching their own Christmas tree from the forest is a key part of the festive season.
Report, 12 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, German, Spanish; WW, VoD, M, IFE

824869 157 Dance! – Semyon wants to take the stage
World Issues | Full Report Zoom:
The Nutcracker is a well-loved Christmas ballet – among aspiring young dancers too
Report, 12 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, German, Spanish; WW, VoD, M, IFE
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Euromaxx

Europe to the max – Euromaxx. The name says it all. Europe is always on the move. A source of new ideas and a motor for change.

But Europe’s traditions are also flourishing and being updated for life in the 21st century. Europe’s values of tolerance and its diversity make it an exciting mix of cultures and temperaments. Arts and entertainment, fashion and glamour, design and architecture. Europe is all this and much more. And so is Euromaxx.

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We’ll keep you informed about all the latest news from the worlds of fashion, food, travel, art and architecture to name but a few.

Euromaxx, unique clips packed full of Europe for your show reflecting the continent’s constantly changing cultural landscape. Euromaxx – Europe to the max!
Euromaxx Design

Design is the process by which nearly all objects – from cars to paper clips, from clothing to chairs – acquire a certain form and function. But design involves more than just shaping and styling: good design is a complex process in which different and often contradictory requirements have to be met to ensure that objects function in the desired way. Design is only good when aesthetic, ergonomic and ecological aspects, durability, function and comfort harmonize and complement one another.

Euromaxx Design presents the most important and exciting creations on the European design scene. It portrays star designers, shows emerging trends and pays tribute to traditional design.

The individual reports of our successful series Euromaxx Design introduce the latest creations from the automotive industry, from furniture designers, glassworks and material and jewelry studios and visit trade fairs, exhibitions and presentations.

SAMPLE EPISODE 1 | 30 MINUTE VERSION

Goldbeater from Venice Continues Ancient Trade
Only a few businesses still produce thin sheets of gold. One of them is a shop in Venice run by Mario Menegazzo. There, gold bars are hammered so thin that they’re almost transparent so they can be used in a host of products.

Need for Speed: Art from Old Motor Vehicles
German sculptor Stefan Rohrer loves cars and mopeds. His artwork, repurposed from old vehicles, bears titles such as “Whiplash”. These embody the thrill of high speed, but also the devastation of resulting disasters.

Matteo Cibic’s Eccentric Designs
The Italian designer Matteo Cibic creates objects that aren’t essential, but which are nonetheless touching. With his sharp ideas, he has transformed Vicenza’s Michelin starred restaurant “El Coq” into a fantasy world.

The Tailor of Princesses and Queens
Edouard Vermeulen is one of the most famous fashion designers in Belgium. His creations are synonymous with tasteful exclusivity. For more than 30 years he has been considered the tailor of European nobility.

The Fabulous World of Bruno Weber
Bruno Weber’s property is a fantasy world brought to life! Fairy tale creatures and mythological figures populate the garden and the building. Surprises still abound on the grounds of the artist who died in 2011.

Art with a Mission: Clare Celeste’s Nature Collages
Berlin-based artist Clare Celeste creates paper image installations of nature. She wants to present the beauty of fauna and flora, as well as highlight mankind’s threat to the environment.
SAMPLE EPISODE 3 | 30 MINUTE VERSION

The Last Traditional Fan-Maker in Paris
French fan-maker Anne Hoguet supplies Hollywood and luxury fashion labels with traditional fans. And even Karl Lagerfeld turned to her skilled craftsmanship. But this special profession is on the verge of disappearing.

A Gigantic Picnic Cloth: An Art Installation in Switzerland
Once a year locals meet up for a gigantic picnic in the Swiss canton of St. Gallen. The art installation goes by the name of BIGNIK.

The Art of Crafting Gilt Leather
Two Polish sisters are keeping the tradition of crafting gilt leather alive. They also create exquisite wall coverings following a 400-year-old tradition.

Alexander Steffen Documents the Vanishing Berlin
Like many major cities, Berlin is undergoing a construction boom. Photographer Alexander Steffen photo-documents its special corners, vestiges and relics of another time, preserving them for future generations.

Saint-Claude, Capital of Tobacco Pipes
The small French town of Saint-Claude is considered the pipe capital of Europe. It’s also home to the pipe maker Sébastien Beaud. He continues that town’s centuries-old craft tradition.

Bespoke Shoemaker Adele Williamson
Tradition plays a major role at the oldest shoe manufacturer in Britain. Even the British royal family wear their bespoke shoes. Now, for the first time, the master custom shoemaker is a woman: Adele Williamson.
SAMPLE EPISODE OF A 30 MINUTE VERSION

Anamorphic Glass Art by Thomas Medicus
The glass cubes designed by Austrian artist Thomas Medicus really turn heads – they show a different image from each side. If you turn a cube, the image disappears and a new one takes its place.

Traditional Dirndls Made with African Fabrics
The creations by Marie Darouiche and Rahmée Wetterich have a special twist. They tailor Bavarian dirndls out of African fabrics boasting colorful patterns – in a tribute to their home country of Cameroon.

Strange Creations: French Sculptor Bruno Catalano
Sculptor Bruno Catalano’s “The Travelers” series can be seen across Europe. They portray migrants on the move but with body parts missing, they leave viewers wondering how the sculptures remain standing.

Princess of Punk: The Fashion of Zandra Rhodes
Queen’s Freddy Mercury, Princess Diana and other royals and celebrities have been dressed by fashion and textile designer Zandra Rhodes. She herself wears her colorful creations and punkish styles.

Bubbling with Creative Ideas: Stephanie Lüning’s Art
German action artist Stephanie Lüning makes colored foam that seeps over staircases, through windows, and into rooms. In her latest work, foam flooded the square at the Centre Pompidou in Paris – a beautiful mess.

Expressive Upcycling: Portraits in Trash
Turkish artist Deniz Sağdıç transforms waste materials from junked electronics and scraps of fabric into mosaic-style portraits. She wants her work to raise awareness of the environment and use of resources.
Euromaxx on Vacation

Euromaxx on Vacation invites you to spend your vacation with us. Let us be your guide on a tour of the most beautiful destinations, glamorous locations and tranquil regions Europe has to offer. You will be enchanted by these diverse and fascinating places.

We provide all kinds of information and insider tips about the places we visit. Euromaxx on Vacation is guaranteed to infect you with the travel bug.

SAMPLE EPISODE 1 | 30 MINUTE VERSION

La Gomera’s Whistled Language
Inhabitants of the Spanish island La Gomera don’t need a phone to get in touch over large distances. They can chat using the whistled language “Silbo Gomero”.

Tolkien’s Inspiration for Middle Earth
J.R.R. Tolkien’s “The Hobbit” and “The Lord of the Rings” are fantasy masterpieces. Which places inspired him to write these acclaimed novels? Tolkien expert John Garth has some of the answers.

All Aboard the Rigi Railway
This train takes us to Switzerland. Watch as reporter Axel Primavesi rides the Rigi Railway, Europe’s oldest mountain railroad!

Braga: Home of the Happy Portuguese
This city in northern Portugal has been collecting distinctions: best European destination of 2021 and happiest city in the country. It may be over 2,000 years old, but some 40% of its people are under 30 years young.

Legendary Sparta
On the Greek peninsula of Peloponnese, near the ancient city of Sparta, there are people who still speak like the legendary Spartans today. And even their food is authentically Spartan.

Meissen: Digital Time Travel to Germany’s Oldest Castle
Albrechtsburg Castle in the Saxon city of Meissen is using cutting edge technology. With the help of digital tablets known as HistoPads, you can go back in time and visit the castle with augmented reality.
Europe by Train: A Ride on the Glacier Express
There's no nicer way to travel through the Alps than in the panoramic train cars of the Glacier Express. The ride from St. Moritz to Zermatt on the “world’s slowest express train” takes around eight hours.

Finding Our Way Around Amsterdam
The Dutch capital evokes images of picturesque canals and world-famous museums. But what can be found there off the beaten tourist paths? Euromaxx asked local residents for their best tips.

Through the Ages in Sofia
Bulgaria’s capital is one of Europe’s oldest cities. But the architecture of this city of 1.2 million people is still shaped very much by its recent socialist past. Travel blogger Veneta Nikolova reveals some of her favorite spots.

A Tip for Nature Fans: Iceland’s West Fjords
Secluded beaches, towering waterfalls and spectacular landscapes are all found in the West Fjords, Iceland’s remote natural splendor. The Lonely Planet travel guide lists the peninsula among its ‘Best in Travel’ areas for 2022.

Europe’s Longest Place Name
A Welsh village draws tourists mainly due to its unusual, and unusually long, name: Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwllllantysiliogogogoch. At 58 letters, it’s the longest single-word place name in Europe.

The Renaissance Festival in Tortosa
It’s July, 2022, in Spain – or is it 1522? At the Tortosa Renaissance Festival it’s hard to tell! We take a trip to the east coast and look back at a golden age of art and culture.
Euromaxx à la Carte

We travel around Europe to trace the manifold roots of European cuisine and to show how Europe’s culinary heritage is reworked and refined by the continent’s top chefs. They give us an insight into their skills as they turn regional specialties into gourmet delights. For Euromaxx à la Carte they demonstrate European gastronomy at its finest in their award-winning restaurants.

It’s all here – from new Scandinavian cuisine to hearty Bavarian dishes. For dessert, each program focuses on a special subject, such as the delicate craft of the chocolatier or top wines from France. Euromaxx à la Carte takes your taste buds on a European tour.

SAMPLE EPISODE 1 | 30 MINUTE VERSION

The Secret of Authentic Neapolitan Pizza
Pizza is eaten around the globe, but it is made differently in different places. So what makes an Italian pizza authentic?

Dining in a Former Chapel in Antwerp
The Jane is a gourmet restaurant in the grand setting of a decommissioned chapel. The open kitchen is in the apse.

Halloumi – A Specialty Cheese from Cyprus
Halloumi is a staple in Cypriot food and part of the island’s cultural heritage. Gourmets around the world treasure this export hit, produced from sheep and goat milk. There are many ways to serve it.

Winegrowing on Lanzarote
Wine harvesting in Lanzarote is exceptional. Instead of vineyards the vines grow in hollows. Heat and humidity are stored here. The earth is rich in minerals and organic farming is in trend.

Berlin Lobster – From Pest to Delicacy
American crayfish are served in Berlin restaurants. The crustaceans were set free and have since greatly multiplied. Now they are offered as a regional delicacy.

“Nolla” – The Zero-Waste Restaurant in Finland
“Nolla” is the first Finnish restaurant that composts all of its food scraps and leftovers. What’s more: everything is made from recycled materials, including the furniture and dishes.
Milk Chocolate from Switzerland
Swiss chocolate is a hot export item and popular the world over, we try to find the recipe for its success. What makes this sweet Epicurean experience so special?

The Blind Chef Antonio Ciotola
Italian chef Antonio Ciotola lost his eyesight in an accident. But he still manages perfectly well in the kitchen of his restaurant, which is known for its excellent dishes.

In Search of Truffles in Provence
France is one of the largest truffle producers in the world. Most black truffles are found in Provence. There, visitors can also go in search of the valuable mushrooms with specially trained dogs.

Glowing Algae Tarts
Algae are rich in protein, available worldwide and easy to grow. A pastry chef in Munich came up with the idea of creating glowing blue algae tarts. Not only do they taste yummy, they’re good for the global climate.

Haggis: Scotland’s National Dish
This dish might take quite some getting used to for non-Scots, but in its land of origin, it’s attained cult status. Haggis is made with cooked innards, oatmeal and spices.

The Pizza-Baking Robot
In one Parisian restaurant, machines are running the show! The pizza recipe comes from Thierry Graffagnino, a three-time World Pizza Champion.
SAMPLE EPISODE OF A 30 MINUTE VERSION

Cakes and Tortes from Germany
Black Forest cake is known the world over, but it’s just one of many German cake and tart specialties. Check out what other treats the country has to offer and why Germans love their “coffee & cake.”

How to Make Authentic English Fish & Chips
Fish & chips is considered to be Britain’s national dish. Usually it’s served up at a chip shop – known as a “chippy” – with a good dash of salt and vinegar. What’s the secret to making this English street food classic?

Colatura di Alici – An Italian Fish Sauce
Despite its pungent smell, the sauce made from anchovies is considered an exquisite condiment. Its ancient origins lie in the small fishing village of Cetara on Italy’s Amalfi Coast.

Pierogi – Soul food from Poland
Pierogi are stuffed dumplings – and they come in sweet or savory varieties. They’re considered a national dish in Poland. But how exactly are they made and what are choices of filling? A Polish cook gives us a recipe.

Bread Beer: Recycling Old Bread into a Tasty Drink
Beer and bread share a common history: Places that baked bread in medieval times often brewed beer as well. We take a look at what makes bread beer a modern treat – as well as being good for the environment too.

Gazpacho: Cool Andalusian Cuisine
When we think of soup, a piping hot dish comes to mind. But during the scorching summers in southern Spain, they enjoy a cool gazpacho. We head to Málaga, to find out how it’s made.
**Architectural Trend: Sustainable Wood Buildings**

In the Austrian Ziller Valley, the first luxury hotel made entirely of wood is an outstanding example of the trend towards building sustainably using this natural material. The hotel was designed by star architect Matteo Thun.

**Clearly Concrete – Brutalist Architecture in Berlin**

Brutalist architecture divides opinions to this day. Many say the concrete buildings erected between the 1950s and the 1980s are ugly. But isn’t there still an allure to this style? Euromaxx looks at a few noteworthy examples.

**New Living Concepts – Unusual Houses in Europe**

Some dwellings are anything but ordinary: Euromaxx presents three special housing projects from a converted church to a circular house surrounded by trees and an underground house.

**Zany and Delightful: The Amphibious E-Bike Camper**

It’s both quirky and amazing: Latvian designer Aigars Lauzis invented a hybrid vehicle that not only has room for passengers to sleep inside, but that also functions as an e-bike and amphibious vehicle.
Global Living Rooms

Our own four walls say a great deal about us, our history and our culture. Global Living Rooms allows us a glimpse into the homes of artists, farmers, managers, presidents and their families. People all over the world throw open their front doors and invite us to spend some time with them – whether it be in Thailand, Kyrgyzstan, Ethiopia or Belize. Please come in!

- Valentina – Naryan-Mar, Russia
- Nguyen Tuan Bao – Hanoi, Vietnam
- Christina – Maputo, Mozambique
- Joy and George – Baylys Beach, New Zealand
- Lydia Jakimowna – Pesmog, Russia
- Jim Lowry – Dublin, Ireland
- Norbert and Elizabeth Wirsching – New York, US
- Valentina – Naryan-Mar, Russia
- Ana Valerie Mandri – Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Mexico
- Arnold Cruickshank – St. George’s, Grenada
- Beth and Tom – Nashville, US
- Raphael Kariuki – Nairobi, Kenya
- Maria Campos – San José, Costa Rica
- Quy Van Nguyen – Hanoi, Vietnam
- Anjali Nambissan – New Delhi, India
- Edmilson Felix de Lima – São Paulo, Brazil
- Eri Katayama – Tokyo, Japan
- The Ojha family – Kathmandu, Nepal
- Nora Djemouni – Rabat, Morocco
- Gabriel Calaforra – Havana, Cuba
- Ivette Cob – Sarteneja, Belize
- Paulina Bibi – Taveuni, Fiji
- Gomati Devi Dohara – Belvadi, Nepal
Food can break down boundaries and connect people all over the globe. It also tells stories about the world’s diverse cultures. An omnipresent phenomenon in our globalized world is fast food, or light bites on the go. When it comes to snacks, every region has its own specialties. The snack is a reliable barometer of a nation and its people.

Whether it’s tapioca in Brazil, falafel in Lebanon, dal baati in India or maandazi in Kenya, ... whether it’s a mobile cookshop, a hawker’s tray or a hotdog stand: Global Snack guides the hungry through the maze of light-bite possibilities, wherever you happen to be.

524856 001
Berlin, Germany – Currywurst

524856 002
Costa Rica – Ceviche

524856 003
Auckland, New Zealand – Pie

524856 004
St. Lucia, Caribbean – Souse

524856 005
Belgrade, Serbia – Pijeskavica

524856 006
Valparaíso, Chile – Sopaipillas

524856 007
Dublin, Ireland – Guinness Bread

524856 008
Montreal, Canada – Bagels

524856 009
Istanbul, Turkey – Balik Ekmek

524856 010
Zagreb, Croatia – Zagorski Cuspajz

524856 011
Sofia, Bulgaria – Banitsa

524856 012
Luang Prabang, Laos – Noodle Soup

524856 013
Coquimbo, Chile – Empanadas de Marisco

524856 014
Bangkok, Thailand – Som Tam

524856 015
Lima, Peru – Tacacho Mixto

524856 016
Colombia – Fruit

524856 017
Dhaka, Bangladesh – Fuchka

524856 018
Cape Town, South Africa – Boerewors

524856 019
Tirana, Albania – Crêpes

524856 020
Quito, Ecuador – Las Corvinas de la Sierra

524856 021
Taipei, Taiwan – Personal Snacks

524856 022
Kyrgyzstan – Beshparmak

524856 023
Beirut, Lebanon – Falafel

524856 024
Kaeng Khoi, Thailand – Phad Gra Phao

524856 025
Podgorica, Montenegro – Cevapcici

524856 026
Kiev, Ukraine – Blinis

524856 027
Chorugh, Tadzhikistan – Biljasch

524856 028
Tapachula, Mexico – Quesadilla

524856 029
Bali, Indonesia – Ayam Pelalah

524856 030
Szczecin, Poland – Pierogi
Mumbai, India – Pav Bhaji

Tel Aviv, Israel – Sabikh

Katmandu, Nepal – Bara

Panama City, Panama – Patacónes

Port Louis, Mauritius – Mie Noodles

Buenos Aires, Argentina – Churrasco

Cusco, Peru – Sopa de Moraya

Vienna, Austria – Käsekrainer

Porto Seguro, Brazil – Tapioca

Mount Abu, India – Dal Baati

Aberdare Range, Kenya – Maandazi

Negros Oriental, the Philippines – Shakoy

Bologna, Italy – Panzerotti

Tel Aviv, Israel – Kzizot

Gall, Sri Lanka – Dal Vada

Niamey, Niger – Brochettes

Boca de Camichín, Mexico – Oysters

Sète, France – Tielle

Copenhagen, Denmark – Hot Dogs

Principe – Moqueca

Stockholm, Sweden – Herring

Tunis, Tunisia – Safha Toun

Sarajevo, Bosnia – Burek

Munich, Germany – Vegan Kebabs

Belém, Brazil – Acai with Fish

Thessaloniki, Greece – Gyros

Abidjan, Ivory Coast – Alloco

Quang Binh, Vietnam – Banh Loc

Berlin, Germany – Deluxe Fries

Sao Paulo, Brazil – Pao com Mortadella

Lake Skadar, Montenegro – Eel Risotto

Jaipur, India – Omelettes

Anguilla, Caribbean – Barbeque

Rufisque, Senegal – Sweet Beignets

Chetumal, Mexico – Tacos al Pastor

Cayo District, Belize – Grilled Meat with Rice
Santa Cruz, Tenerife – Pommes Frites

New Delhi, India – Parathas

Bosnia and Herzegovina – Cevap

Oxford, Britain – Fish and Chips

Sulaymaniyah, Iraq – Shifta

Colombia – Arepas de Huevo

Uganda – Chapati

The Philippines – Lugaw

Iceland – Súpa í brauði

Solomon Islands – Siskolo-Soup

Colombia – Buñuelos

Brazil – Guaraná

Nairobi, Kenya – Chapati

Moscow, Russia – Shuba

Bangkok, Thailand – Khanom Bueang

Accra, Ghana – Corn on the Cob

Villaflores, Mexico – Garnachas

Jakarta, Indonesia – Kerak Telor

Brasilia, Brazil – Pastel e caldo de cana

Cape Town, South Africa – Koesister

Belén, Costa Rica – Sugarcane Juice

Voronezh, Russia – Olivier Salad

Laamu, Maldives – Golha Riha

Bizerte, Tunisia – Lablabi

Sal, Cape Verde – Cachupa

Semarang, Indonesia – Lumpia
**Tasty Tales**

What culinary surprises does the party metropolis Tel Aviv have up its sleeve? What’s special about the famous Singaporean chilli crab? To what does South Tyrolean cuisine owe its sophistication? Foodstuffs and dishes reveal a great deal about history, cultural influences and traditions in their respective region. The ingredients, presentation, aroma, taste and color of our foods are as diverse as the landscapes and climates of our world. Come with us on a culinary voyage of discovery. Bon appétit!

**564837 001**

*The Gurus of Indian Cuisine*

Working as a top chef in India is a particularly challenging job in view of the many different culinary preferences and traditions on the subcontinent. For many Indians, beef is taboo for religious reasons; it’s important to understand and master vegetarian cooking; and some people won’t even eat vegetables that grow beneath the earth. All of this means the gurus of Indian cooking have to be highly creative.

*Documentary, 30 min.*, 2014, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

**564837 002**

*Peru, a Culinary Discovery*

Peru has long been a tourist magnet, and not just for its famous Inca sites and dramatic landscapes. People also come here to savor the nation’s exceptionally tasty cuisine. These days, Peru is one of the culinary high points of any trip to the South American continent.

*Documentary, 30 min.*, 2014, SD; English, Spanish; IFE, LR

**564837 003**

*Hong Kong à la Carte*

Hong Kong has to be the number one metropolis for dining out. Whether the food is steamed, simmered, fried or glazed, the chefs here don’t restrict themselves to traditional Chinese methods. Many Hong Kong restaurants are the scene of exciting experimentation, even with the most unusual ideas in modern molecular cuisine.

*Documentary, 30 min.*, 2014, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

**564837 004**

*Vienna, European Capital of Desserts*

The art of pastry making holds a particular significance in Vienna. Even in the 16th century, the imperial court employed a master confectioner. To this day, visitors from all over the world come to the Austrian capital to enjoy its famous pastries and chocolates.

*Documentary, 30 min.*, 2014, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, LR

**564837 005**

*Perfect Cuisine, Japanese Style*

Japan is crazy about fish – and the fresher the better! Not only does it have to taste good, it has to be aesthetically presented on the plate. Japanese food is a marriage of two art forms: cooking and design, united in the desire for perfection.

*Documentary, 30 min.*, 2014, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

**564837 006**

*A Culinary Tour of Sicily*

Sicily has been invaded and governed by numerous rulers over the centuries, each of them leaving their mark on the cuisine of the Italian island: The Greeks, Phoenicians, Arabs, Normans and not least the Spanish, who brought cocoa beans from South America. To this day, Sicilian chocolate is manufactured using ancient Aztec methods.

*Documentary, 30 min.*, 2014, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

**564837 007**

*Vietnam’s Healthy Cuisine*

The cuisine of Vietnam is delicious and very healthy. Highlights of the nation’s culinary palette include light rice paper rolls, noodle soups and seafood – served with all kinds of fresh herbs. Vietnam is also a paradise for fans of tropical fruit.

*Documentary, 30 min.*, 2014, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

**564837 008**

*Appetite for Tel Aviv*

A culinary exploration of Tel Aviv yields a host of surprising taste sensations. People living in this vibrant Mediterranean metropolis are known for their high-spirited lifestyle, and the local cuisine is similarly exuberant, linking the flavors of East and West. Tel Aviv has the potential to become a major magnet for gourmets.

*Documentary, 30 min.*, 2015, HD; English, Spanish; IFE, LR
564837 009
Singapore and Penang – A Culinary Melting Pot
Numerous culinary influences converge on the Malay Peninsula. The Chinese and Malays, Indians and British have all left their mark, especially on the regional cuisines of Singapore and Penang. The huge variety of local herbs and spices, combined with a yen for experimentation, yields an abundance of delicious, creative dishes.
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564837 010
Scrumptious Switzerland
If you’re watching your waistline, then the dishes typically served in the Swiss canton of Graubünden are probably not for you. Barley soup or stuffed dumplings, special kinds of sausage or pastries made with nuts – traditional meals are a revelation for fans of hearty, filling food. It’s down-to-earth cuisine just like grandma used to make.
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564837 011
Thailand’s Delicacies
Thai cuisine offers an amazing variety of tastes and is made with fresh, healthy ingredients. No wonder it is popular around the world. In Thailand itself, mealtime traditionally involves a pleasurable custom. All dishes on the table are shared – to ensure that each diner partakes of a balanced, substantial meal: A little of everything, instead of too much of one thing.
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564837 012
South Tyrol – Cuisine Flavored by Italy and Austria
Hearty Alpine specialties combined with Mediterranean lightness – this is the charm of South Tyrolean cuisine. It is a synthesis of two culinary cultures – the Italian and the Austrian. The cuisine in the northernmost province of Italy may be rooted in tradition, but it’s often served up with an innovative twist, and with the accent on top quality ingredients.
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564837 013
The Alsatian Gourmet Experience
Wherever you might be in the eastern French region of Alsace, you’ll never be far from haute cuisine. The finest goose pie, partridge in cognac sauce, desserts that melt in the mouth – many starred chefs are at work in Alsace, which borders Germany. As well as diners, the region also attracts those keen to look over the shoulder of one of these masters and learn some of the secrets of their trade.
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, SD; English, Spanish; IFE, LR

564837 014
Pizza – The Global Fast Food Hit
The first big waves of migrants from southern Italy reached the US in the 19th century. The Neapolitans arrived with the recipe for their national dish – pizza. It wasn’t long before the new dish had captivated the taste buds of the New World. Today, it’s not just a case of the Americanized version returning to Europe and competing with the original Italian fare. Pizza is also the most popular fast food in the world.
Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564837 015
Barbecue – Meat Cooked to Perfection
It was invented by the French, perfected by the Americans and introduced to the rest of the world – the barbecue. But we’re not talking about a few sausages and burgers out in the garden. A real barbecue involves cooking the meat for hours in the hot smoke of a wooden fire, then serving it with a variety of sauces to suit all tastes. Barbecue fever has now spread to the inhabitants of other continents. Like the typical oven, known as a smoker, the strictly regulated barbecue competitions from the US are also catching on.
Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
Tofu, Miso and Soya Sauce – The Magic of the Soya Bean

Centuries ago, Buddhist monks in China allowed soya milk to curdle, and named the resulting "cheese" tofu. The Japanese continued to develop it into its present soft form. Soya products are intrinsic to Asian cuisine. Tofu, miso soup and soya sauce are now regarded as key components of a healthy diet all over the world. And beyond the borders of Asia too, tofu is increasingly being regarded as a foodstuff in its own right, rather than just a substitute for meat.

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Pasta – Simple and Versatile

Spaghetti, tortellini, ravioli – a success story initiated by the Arabs. The idea of drying pasta products was theirs, and they brought it to Italy during the Middle Ages. This meant that pasta was no longer just for the domestic kitchen. It became an industrial product that could be preserved and transported, in a variety of forms to appeal to all tastes. From that point on, the success of pasta knew no bounds.

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

The Sausage – A Story with Two Endings

The humble sausage handmade by Viennese butchers is steeped in legend, anecdotes and a multitude of questions. Why do the Viennese call the wiener a frankfurter? How did it evolve into today’s hot dog? And what do an emperor, a countess and even a pope have to do with the sausage from Vienna? Although the wiener is a common snack food pretty much everywhere these days, its story is far from over. As the old German saying goes: "Everything has an end – only the sausage has two."

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, LR
Tasty Taipei
Food, Fusion and Fun

From street food at the Raohe Night Market to gourmet cuisine: eating in the Taiwanese capital Taipei offers a wide variety of experiences. The city's food reflects the many different cultures that have influenced Taiwan over the centuries. Few other cities in Asia offer such a concentration of delicious dishes to be sampled in one location.

Two reporters guide us through Taipei's diverse restaurant landscape. DW correspondent Tsou Tzung-Han was born in Taiwan and knows pretty much everything about the country's culinary history and specialties. Lifestyle presenter Meggin Leigh discovers the nation and its food together with her host. Together they explore the kitchens of Taipei and describe the history of Taiwanese cuisine: what's on the table, why does it taste so good and how did it get here in the first place?

Tzung-Han Tsou is absolutely certain: "Nowhere else does one eat as well as here."
Animal Encounters

Can there be such a thing as a spiritual affinity between animals and humans? The men and women in our Animal Encounters would probably say yes. They have all felt a profound connection with certain animals, a relationship that has stayed with them ever since their first meeting. The devotion with which they commit to the welfare of their protégés, the trust that these animals demonstrate and the wordless form of understanding between them are often an enigma to outsiders.

564825
Documentary,
16 x 30 min.,
Arabic, English, Spanish
06 x 30 min.,
Russian

564825 003
At the Elephant Orphanage
In Kenya, keepers at the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust lovingly raise baby elephants, most of whom were orphaned when poachers killed their mothers. For all of those concerned, this is more than just a job. The men bottle feed the babies every three hours and are there when traumatised calves are plagued by nightmares.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

564825 004
Film Stars in Fur and Feathers
Animal trainer Christoph Kappel has an eye for a movie star, and instantly knows whether an animal will make the grade. He employs gentle methods to groom and coach his furry and feathered protégés for the big screen. Once on the set, Christoph Kappel shields his animal stars from stress with calmness and serenity.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

564825 006
Searching for Sky the Bear
The Swiss-Canadian bear researcher Reno Sommerhalder released five young grizzlies into the wild in Kamchatka, Russia. Years later, he returns to find out what has become of his favorite female, Sky. Has she survived in the wilderness? Documentary, 30 min., 2014, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

564825 007
A School for Monkeys
In Thailand, the coconut harvest is monkey business. Usually, wild monkeys are captured and beaten until they have learned how to do their job. But at Somjai Saekhow's school for monkeys, it's quite a different story. With plenty of love and endless patience, her staff teach them how to recognise a ripe fruit and pluck it.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR
The Story of the Spirit Bear

Kermode bears, also known as spirit bears, are extremely rare. Related to the more common black bear but with a striking white coat, the spirit bear is revered for its special powers by indigenous people in western Canada. Clover is an orphaned spirit bear who was raised by zookeeper Angelika Langen with lots of tender loving care. Once he was grown, she released him, to try to ensure the survival of the species in the wild.

Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

My Animal Protégé

At Schönbrunn Zoo in Austria – the oldest zoo in the world – 70 keepers tend to the needs of around 8,000 animals. Many dedicate their entire lives to the care of their protégés. They watch as their animals are born and grow up, grow old and die. Sometimes they are even witness to the extinction of a species.

Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; LR

The Girl and the Elephants

Sixteen-year-old Chandani has an ardent wish: She wants to follow in her father’s footsteps and become a mahout, or elephant rider. But in her homeland Sri Lanka, this is a job exclusively for men. Nonetheless, Chandani’s father decides to give her a chance, and puts her in charge of the elephant calf Kandula.

Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Among Dolphins

The Swiss biologist Angela Ziltener resigned her job, left family and friends, and moved to Egypt’s Red Sea coast, all to be close to “her” dolphins. While diving with these animals, she gains the most extraordinary insights. This is because she manages to integrate herself within the pod, as though she were a dolphin herself.

Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

The Tree-Kangaroo Mother

There is a species of kangaroo in Australia that lives in trees. Tree-kangaroos are nimble climbers, but occasionally one may fall or lose its young as it jumps from branch to branch. Jeffrey and Dorothy are tree-kangaroos who were found abandoned as babies. Their prospects for survival were dim, until they found a human foster mother in Margit Cianelli.

Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR
564825 014

Conserving India’s Wildlife
In India’s Kaziranga National Park, wildlife populations are under threat from poaching and disease. Efforts to protect them need the backing of the local population, but elephants and rhinos cause damage to farmland, and people are afraid of tigers and leopards. Phulmoni Gogoi and her husband Prasanta Boro run an animal clinic where they fight for the lives of every single patient, as well as educate people about the creatures themselves.

Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564825 015

For Love of the Leopard-Spotted Horse
The Knabstrupper is a Danish breed of horse with an unusual leopard-spotted coat. 350 years ago, the stallions were considered as precious as gold and favored by royalty. Today, the breed is threatened with extinction. Heinz Hackmann is devoted to their conservation.

Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564825 016

Too Slow for This World – Sloths in Costa Rica
Sloths are just that - slothful in everything they do. They are becoming misfits in their own world in Costa Rica as forests are razed, construction encroaches, and cars speed by along broad highways. Encar Garcia and Sandro Alviani have created a little refuge for these languorous animals.

Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564825 017

Immo the Hunter and Harry the Stag
Harry is a red stag and a foundling. The professional hunter and forest educator Immo Ortlepp is raising him. Immo wants to train Harry to be a tracking stag. A tracking animal leaves traces in the forest that are used to train hunting dogs. But first, Immo has to win the wild creature’s trust.

Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR
Faith Matters

Faith provides many people with a framework for life and a moral code. This series offers insights into matters of faith, with reports on contemporary Catholic and Protestant communities around the world. The main focus is on the purpose of existence, Christian values and social responsibility, as well as contributions Christians make to society, culture and the arts. Faith Matters portrays the everyday life of Christians; it reports on the latest events in the Christian community and on the work of churches in Germany and worldwide.

564675

Documentary,
50 x 30 min.,
2018-2023, HD;
Arabic, English,
German, Spanish
WW, VoD, M, IFE

564675 111
Luther’s Legacy in Namibia – Evangelization and Genocide
As the Lutheran World Federation celebrates 500 years of Protestantism, Namibians remember a grim chapter of their history. Missionaries set sail for the future German colony of South West Africa in 1840, fired with the ideals of the Reformation. But their message of humble service prepared the way for economic exploitation – and a conflict that ended in genocide.

564675 112
No Heaven Without Hell
The internationally acclaimed Berlin Radio Choir has joined forces with American theater director and visual artist Robert Wilson for a production that marries Martin Luther’s writings and translations with the music of Johann Sebastian Bach. Wilson’s theater of images evokes both anxiety and hope in a timeless statement that places Luther among the great thinkers of history.

564675 113
Women in the Driving Seat – Revolution at the Vatican
When Pope Francis appointed Barbara Jatta director of the Vatican Museums in 2016, it caused a sensation. Some even described it as a mini-revolution. But Barbara Jatta is not the only woman to hold an influential position at the Vatican. Are we seeing the end of male domination in the Catholic Church?

564675 114
A Dynamic School – “Bold – Protestant – Tolerant”
The Evangelische Schule Berlin Zentrum is renowned for its innovative approach to learning. Pupils take lessons in such unusual subjects as ‘responsibility’ and ‘challenge’. The aim is to help students become engaged and independent-minded citizens committed to shaping the society they live in. The school welcomes students from a wide range of backgrounds.

564675 115
The Moravians of Suriname
The Moravian Church is one of the oldest Protestant denominations. Since the 18th century it has been sending missionaries to many parts of the world. The church is especially strong in the former Dutch colony of Suriname on the northern coast of South America. The Moravian community there has organized the 2018 World Day of Prayer, a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women.

564675 116
The Secret of the Cross
Since its very beginning, the paradox of the cross has disturbed and even offended people. The cross unites two irreconcilable opposites: a deeply cruel death and divinity. It refers to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is at once bleak and a symbol of hope. For 2,000 years, the cross has been the symbol of Christianity. And its message is a deeply moving mystery.
Finally
'Mediaeval Beauty – The World of Uta of Naumburg

A thousand years ago, the Benedictine abbey on the island of Reichenau was a center of scholarship. The monks created some of the finest illuminated manuscripts ever produced. But in the early 19th century, the religious community was expelled. In spite of secularization, the islanders struggled to preserve the monks' legacy and today Reichenau is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

'Ventually declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Naumburg Cathedral is one of Germany's finest churches – significant not only for its architectural splendor but because it contains a portrait of one of the great beauties of the Middle Ages: Margravine Uta von Ballenstedt. The statue was carved by a mediaeval stone sculptor who, in spite of his fame, is known to history only as the Naumburg Master.

'gothermal Pilgrimage of Altar Servers

"Mega, awesome, cool!" That was twelve-year-old Linus's comment. He is one of 60,000 Catholic altar servers from across the world who made the pilgrimage to Rome this year to see the pope. With the Eternal City sweltering in temperatures around 40 degrees Celsius this summer it wasn't always "cool." But nothing could stop these kids.

'fruit – The Good, the Bad, Fair Trade

More than even beer, coffee is the most popular drink in Germany. Every German drinks about 300 liters of it a year. Many of them try to square enjoyment with a clear conscience by buying fair trade coffee. It costs more than normal coffee but the "Fairtrade" seal means that farmers in Africa or Latin America receive a greater share of sale proceeds than they would from normal coffee companies.

'Theologian, Archaeologist, Maverick – Dieter Vieweger

Dieter Vieweger is a Lutheran theologian and an archaeologist. He has been Director-General of the German Protestant Institute of Archaeology in Jerusalem since 2005. With his infectious enthusiasm for unravelling the past, Professor Vieweger succeeds in fascinating young and old with his exploration of the Holy Land's 5000-year-old history.

'Itural pilgrimage of Altar Servers

The Lutheran pastor Nikolaus Schneider held the highest office in the Evangelical Church in Germany, but his life has often been clouded by death. Aged 22, his daughter, Meike, died of leukemia. He preached at the memorial service for the victims of the crowd disaster at the 2010 Love Parade in Duisburg. Then his wife was diagnosed with cancer.

'noon – Concert and Church Service in Berlin

NoonSong has been called "thirty minutes of heaven." A choral concert, but also a church service. Thirty minutes of sacred music. Each NoonSong is unique. Every Saturday, it features beautiful a cappella singing selected from centuries of Christian music. The choral ensemble 'sirventes berlin', which includes some of Berlin's finest professional singers, performs at these events.

'uilding a Church – Catholics in Cuba

Twenty years ago, Pope John Paul II visited Cuba. He was the very first pontiff to do so in the island's history and his visit marked a thaw in the Communist regime's relations with the Vatican. In the optimism those days ushered in, the small Catholic parish in Guiteras, a suburb of Havana, planned to build a church. But it never got off the drawing board. Not until Pope Francis reignited the community's hopes and aspirations when he visited in 2015.
564675 125
The Miracle of Flores – The World’s Largest Seminary
The churches of Europe are pretty empty generally. But in Indonesia, with its mainly Muslim population, Christian seminaries are overwhelmed with applicants. On a hill in the middle of the jungle on the island of Flores lies the world’s largest seminary. More than 1000 students study at Ledalero, and at least 600 of them are candidates for the priesthood.

564675 126
Provost in Jerusalem – A Lutheran in the Holy Land
Emissary, pastor and director: Life in the Holy Land is a life full of tension for Wolfgang Schmidt – invigorating, but also exhausting. A life full of tension – that’s how Wolfgang Schmidt, the Provost in Jerusalem, describes his ministry in the Holy Land.

564675 127
‘Sign of Solidarity’ – A Hospital Ship on the Amazon
The Papa Francisco is the best-equipped hospital ship in Brazil’s Amazon Region. She was launched in August 2019. Her mission is to serve more than 1,000 isolated communities along the world’s longest river – villages where there is no hospital and no doctor.

564675 128
Silent is the Grave – The Changing Landscape of German Cemeteries
Burial sites in all cultures speak loudly of the prevailing values and beliefs of the societies that design them. Germany’s cemetery culture is unique. But it is currently changing. Many Germans are no longer choosing the time-honored cemetery for their final resting place; more and more people are seeking alternatives to the traditional family grave.

564675 129
Helping People Help Themselves – 50 Years of Kolping International
It started half a century ago with a campaign to provide vocational training for young Brazilians. Today the Catholic social services association Kolping International is a worldwide network with some 400,000 members in more than 60 countries.

564675 130
The Female Peacemakers – 50 Years of “Religions for Peace”
Religions for Peace (RfP) is an association of people representing members of diverse religions in more than 100 countries. This independent organization is committed to mediating in religious conflicts worldwide. RfP will be fifty-years-old in 2020. The endeavors of these women is only now receiving international recognition.

564675 131
Rabbi Schudrich’s Miracle – Jewish Life in Poland
Jewish culture festivals, kosher restaurants, Klezmer bands and Jewish schools. This is Poland today – a country that had been crushed by Nazi Germany; its Jewish population almost entirely exterminated in Auschwitz-Birkenau and lesser-known German concentration camps. The revival of Jewish life here is little short of a miracle.

564675 132
Oberammergau Passion Play – The Plague and Covid-19
The history of the Oberammergau Passion Play reaches back to the seventeenth century, when a plague known as the Black Death swept through Europe. In 1633 the residents of this Bavarian village vowed to present a play depicting the suffering and death of Jesus Christ every ten years if they were spared extinction. Oberammergau has kept its word for more than 400 years. But in the end, the village that the plague made famous had to bow to the corona pandemic. Bowed but not broken, the villagers are determined to fulfill their vow and stage the Oberammergau Passion Play in 2022.

564675 133
Religious Resistance – Christians Against Far-Right Vigilantes
A vigilante group calling itself “First Class Crew – Steele Boys” takes over the streets of Steele each week, a suburb of Essen in western Germany. Sometimes the vigilantes are twenty-strong; other times as many as one hundred. Most of them are Rockers or Rowdies, and their presence strikes fear into the hearts of law-abiding residents. Steele is not even a dangerous area; the crime rate has been dropping steadily over the past ten years. But now these so-called militias have also started threatening anybody opposed to them – on the Internet and in public. For they are being met with courageous opposition from a counter-group calling itself “Steele Stays Mixed.” Residents, churches, clubs, political parties and unions have united to protest either in silent marches or with singing against the far-right.
Repaying the Desert – An Unusual Environmental Project

In their quest to get close to nature two German women have made two fourteen-day tours into the Sahara. It was a great experience, but at what cost to the environment? They were troubled afterward by the damage caused by flying from Germany and driving through the desert. Now they want to repay the Sahara. Together with 15 other desert enthusiasts they are planting a palm grove in Morocco.

The Cup and the Covenant – Wine and Catholicism

Wine has been part of civilization for more than six thousand years. On religious holidays and on the Sabbath Jews pronounce a blessing over cups of wine. For the ancient Greeks and Romans wine also had symbolic significance; it was poured out in libations to the gods. The Book of Genesis names Noah as the first winegrower. After rescuing humans and animals during the Great Flood he is said to have planted the first vines on Earth. The parables that Jesus of Nazareth told are full of references to vineyards, grapevines and wine. The Catholic Mass, a religious commemoration of Jesus’ death and resurrection, is based on his actions during the Last Supper, when the savior is said to have taken wine, blessed it, and given the cup to his disciples saying, “Take this all of you and drink from it. This is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant…” In this report we take a look at the cultural and spiritual significance of wine in the Catholic tradition.

Different, Amen – Evangelical Youtube Stars

Stefanie and Ellen Radtke are the Youtube stars of Germany’s Lutheran Church. The two female pastors from Eime, in the state of Lower Saxony, are a same-sex couple. With their Youtube channel “Different Amen,” which roughly translates as “Different, amen,” they’ve always been controversial ministers. Their aim is to reconcile LGBTQ people and the church.

Eco-Friendly Monks – Plankstetten’s Green Abbey

Running a monastery these days includes having good business sense. Plankstetten Abbey, in Bavaria, has a community of only twelve brothers, but the monastery is thriving. St Benedict’s motto was “Pray and Work.” Between prayers, these Benedictine monks run a highly successful organic farm.

Open to Everybody

The Catholic Church of St Theodor and St Elisabeth in the western German city Cologne is located in a district known as a social flashpoint. The parish priest, Father Franz Meurer, views building community as his top priority. Not just in the Church but in daily life. He has established a second-hand clothing store, a furniture and bicycle warehouse and a food bank – all open to everybody.

The Artist Who Saves Churches

The artist Moritz Götze grew up in East Germany, in an atheistic environment. However, shortly after the collapse of communism in 1989 he helped turn a church ruin into a cultural center and conserved what was left of the historic building.

New Life in Old Walls – Village Churches Bearing Witness to History

Anyone driving through eastern Germany may be surprised by the number of old churches east of the River Elbe. Almost every small village has one. Many of them are fieldstone churches built more than 800 years ago.

New Light in old Walls – Windows for Tholey Abbey

The small village of Tholey in southwestern Germany is home to the oldest monastery on German soil. Founded in the seventh century, the Abbey of St Maurice was plundered and badly damaged 1000 years later during the wars of the French Revolution, and only re-established in 1949. But local philanthropists have breathed new life into the old walls. The renovations carried out between 2008 and 2021 could make Tholey Abbey an international tourist destination. The highlight of the extensive works are the stained glass windows for the north and south aisles of the abbey church by Afghanistan-born artist Mahbuba Maqsoodi, who lives and works in Munich, and the three choir windows designed by Germany’s most famous living artist, Gerhard Richter. The art establishment are calling this the most significant project of its kind on the continent of Europe.
The Quest for Utopia – Grassroots Democracy in Venezuela

The Cecosesola Cooperative Federation grew out of a practical necessity. Some fifty years ago, when a co-op member died, the other members founded a funeral home. Cecosesola now comprises a federation of more than fifty cooperatives, mainly providing food and medical services to hundreds of thousands of Venezuelans. All 1,300 staff draw the same salary, and they reach their decisions by consensus without any hierarchical structure. The federation has no fewer than 23,000 active members in western Venezuela. They produce fruit and vegetables in their regions and run wholesale markets. In addition, they treat many hundreds of patients in their clinics and provide midwifery services.

Church in the Living Room – Hoodie Ousts Cassock

Max Bode and Chris Schlicht had envisioned Christian ministry rather differently. These rookie pastors wanted to revamp the Lutheran liturgy: A sofa replacing the altar, a hoodie the cassock, and techno music the traditional organ-worship in the guise of a party. Corona put an end to their plans. But the two young ecclesiastical rebels from Bremerhaven rose to the challenge. With sensitivity and love they are transforming Church tradition in their town.

Heavenly Sounds – The Organ and its Fascinating Versatility

No other country has as many organs as Germany. Of the organs in the country, 40,000 are church organs. The German Music Council declared the organ the “Instrument of the Year” for 2021. This film features the sounds of selected organs from all over Germany: from the oldest church organ in the world, located in Ostönnen, Westphalia; to Berlin Cathedral’s Late Romantic organ; to a flagship of contemporary organ construction, the organ of St. Martin’s Church in Kassel.

The Neinstedt Foundation – Love at Devil’s Wall

The Neinstedt Foundation provides education and support, accommodation and life opportunities, work and counselling, as well as practical care for people with disabilities. Here they receive professional support to facilitate their full participation in society. One example is the Neinstedters’ performance at the Disability Triathlon – an impressive testimony to the achievement of sportswomen and sportsmen with disabilities.
A Shepherd in the Storm – Pope Francis
On 13 March 2013 a conclave of cardinals chose the Argentinian Jorge Mario Bergoglio to succeed Josef Ratzinger (Benedict XVI) as pope. The new leader asked to be called Francis after the "little poor man" of Assisi. Almost immediately the new Pope set about reforming the Vatican, vowed to confront and root out child abuse in the Catholic Church, raised his voice in support of climate activists and sought dialogue with other religions.

Bach's Successor – The Thomaners' New Conductor
The Swiss conductor Andreas Reize is the latest musician to join the Thomanerchor's prestigious list of choirmasters. He's the 18th musician to hold this post since Johann Sebastian Bach trained the famous Leipzig boys' choir between 1723 and 1750. The choir's main function is to sing at St Thomas' Church, Leipzig. However the greatest innovation is that for the first time since the Reformation a Catholic is conducting the choir in this famous German Lutheran church. In this report we sit in on the new conductor's first rehearsals and performances. We also take a look behind the scenes – at the life of the boy choristers.

Church Bells – Chimes between Heaven and Earth
Often hidden from view, but impossible to ignore, church bells ring out from towering belfries. For centuries they have given a rhythm to human activity. Even today their unmistakable tolling summons people to prayer and to worship. More than any other artefact the church bell has become associated with the voice of Christianity. Dr. Kurt Kramer is a world-renowned campanologist. Affectionately known as "Monsieur Bimbam" he has examined and restored countless bells in the Archdiocese of Freiburg and far beyond its boundaries for more than 40 years.

Caring for Creation – Climate Protection in Rwanda
Rwanda: A poor, landlocked country of 13 million people. In terms of climate protection this East African nation is a role model for the whole region, a powerful example of how a country that is only minimally responsible for polluting the atmosphere is doing an impressive amount to reduce its CO₂ emissions. One striking example is a pilot project promoting high efficiency kitchen stoves amongst Rwandan families. These eco-friendly stoves reduce wood consumption by 60 percent compared to traditional cooking fires. Rwanda's kitchen stove initiative is highly relevant, since 80 percent of all Rwandan families currently cook on an open fire.

Oberammergau – A Village and its Passion
Two thousand residents of a village in the Bavarian Alps are currently performing almost every day a pageant depicting the suffering and death of Jesus Christ. Even the cancellation of the Oberammergau Passion Play due to the Covid pandemic could not stop the villagers from fulfilling the pledge their forefathers made in 1633 to perform the play every ten years if they were spared the plague. The well-known German theatre personality Christian Stückl has directed this year's production. Overcoming some resistance, Stückl has included Muslims and unbaptised people in the cast. Married women have also only been allowed to play the female roles since 1990.
564675  151
**Prayer and Action – The Church and the War**

Christians have a duty to welcome strangers. The gospels record Jesus as saying, “I was a stranger and you invited me in.” In response to the refugee crisis precipitated by Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, Christians in Germany are helping in a number of ways. In our report we investigate the Church’s response to the refugees’ plight. Parish centres have been turned into shelters; in the Café Ukraine in downtown Berlin the new arrivals are invited to discuss ways of making the best of their situation; concerts and prayer services offer them support and encouragement.

564675  152
**Cheers, and Amen!**

Father Wolfgang F. Rothe is no run-of-the-mill priest... and not only because he goes on whisky pilgrimages. While exploring Scotland’s wild beauty this rebellious Catholic cleric also addresses the controversial issues facing his Church. Wolfgang F. Rothe tells us of an attempted rape by his bishop and that he was forced into silence by the Church authorities. However, instead of holding his tongue he is fighting for change in the Catholic Church: the ordination of women to the priesthood, gay marriage and a more honest approach to human dilemmas.

564675  153
**Ulm Minster – The Tallest Church in the World**

In the very center of Ulm, a city in southern Germany on the River Danube, stands the tallest church in the world. Its 161.53-metre-high steeple bears witness to the city’s glorious past as one of the most powerful and prosperous German cities in the Middle Ages. Begun in the late 14th century the church is a masterpiece of Gothic architecture and Ulm’s most famous landmark. A backdrop for international sporting events, a popular tourist attraction, a training site for height rescues, a place for spiritual renewal: Ulm Minister is much more than simply “the tallest church in the world”.

564675  154
**Cologne’s Holy Women**

In the Catholic Church only the Pope can declare somebody a saint, but the process always starts with a popular movement – local people revering a person for their holy way of life. Christianity arrived in Cologne in the 4th century. Since then, a number of remarkable Christian women have left their mark on this western German city. Who are they? And how did they influence Church and Society? What inspiration do modern women draw from these role models? And what role are women today seeking in the Catholic Church?

564675  155
**Successful Evangelizing – Revisiting Africa**

We accompany a 92-year-old woman on a journey from Germany to Tanzania – a pilgrimage to the country of her birth and a revisiting of German Protestant missionary work in East Africa. Both Ruth Köhne’s father and her grandfather were sent out by the Berlin-based Protestant missionary society “Bethel” to Bukoba on Lake Victoria in what is now Tanzania. Following the story of Ruth’s father, Otto Hagena, through the memories of his now elderly daughter, our report focuses on German Protestant missionary activity in East Africa both past and present.

564675  156
**Phoenix from the Ashes – An Old Church in a New Role**

Two artists and a young Lutheran pastor had to use chainsaws and axes to uncover the ruins of an old church in former Communist East Germany. The site had been reclaimed by nature and trees were growing through the gaping roof. In the undergrowth they discovered the tombstone of Friedrich Nietzsche’s grandfather, who died in 1850. Moritz Götze and Rüdiger Giebler grew up in East Germany, where faith and religion were discouraged by the Communist dictatorship. However, the two artists developed a strong interest in the pre-Communist history of their homeland. With their own money, donations and subsidies, they have saved the old church from final decay.
The Idea of the Holy – A Religious Mystery
Our report investigates an idea that is difficult to grasp: The “holy.” All world regions attribute sacredness to certain locations – a mountain or a specific place. Christians also view their traditional writings as sacred, which is why they call them “Holy Scripture.” In most religions, “holy” means being especially close to God, a proximity to perfection, the divine. But what do most people view as “sacred” today?

Who Do You Say I Am? – Transgender Pastor Elke Spörkel
The village of Halden in western Germany was in uproar when their Lutheran pastor announced in 2010 that he was a woman. This is the story of Elke Spörkel’s denial and rejection, but also of her courage and of new beginnings. Hans-Gerd Spörkel saw no alternative; he announced publicly that he was a woman in a man’s body. Outing himself demanded great courage for this pastor of a small rural parish in western Germany, and for a man over fifty.

Believers on Wheels – Cycling for Christ
The idea of a pastor living out his vocation on a bicycle may sound eccentric, but Michael Stahl, a German Lutheran pastor, is convinced that it’s fully in line with the gospels. “If Jesus were out and about today,” he says, “I’m certain he’d use a bicycle.” Stahl is not only a man of the cloth but an enthusiastic cyclist. His enthusiasm for cycling is shared by many German Christians. In St Catherine’s, one of Hamburg’s principal Lutheran churches, the pastor invites cyclists to bring their means of transport into the church, while down in Bavaria Christians use their bicycles to go on pilgrimages. There’s even a cycling cantor: Martin Schulze, who rides from one parish to another to play the organ. With no fewer than 350 cycle routes across the country, German cycling enthusiasts are spoilt for choice.

Women in the Church – Can the Catholic Church Reform?
Maria 2.0 is a women’s movement that promotes equal rights for women in the Catholic Church, including holding office in the hierarchy. These women want to be able to function as priests and deacons, i.e. assistants to priests, in functions previously reserved for men. Some of the women even want a woman to occupy the highest office in the Catholic Church, the papacy. Divisive and dangerous, or courageous reformers? That depends entirely on one’s point of view. Either way, Marie Merscher and Veronika Gräwe are Catholics with all their hearts. The two Berliners believe that women as priests and the blessing of queer couples should be possible in the Catholic Church in the 21st century. We confront reformers with traditionalists and ask: Can Catholicism reform, or will everything stay the same?
Meet women across Asia who are breaking stereotypes and voicing their opinions loud and clear. Get ready for HER – great stories about education, health, depression, dating, beauty and marriage filled with twists, turns, highs and lows.

In recent years, the position of women in south and southeast Asian societies has been strengthened – in conjunction with economic developments. Reforms of basic rights and legal systems, demographic changes and more dynamic civil societies have made this transformation possible. But despite all the progress, enormous challenges still lie ahead in various parts of Asia, especially concerning gender equality. HER shines a light on the lives of women from India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Taiwan and Thailand. Each episode focuses on one topic featuring three women from different countries and backgrounds. The topics are as universal as they are controversial.

**Finding Mr. Right**
Dating is only a recent phenomenon in countries like India, but now dating apps are flourishing there. What role does the generation gap play in countries such as Indonesia or Taiwan? Are traditional and modern lifestyles compatible? In this episode of HER, three women share their experience of online dating.

**Stepping Up**
Many women across Asia still lack access to basic education, and even educated women often face significant obstacles at work and in their daily lives. How can women secure a decent income? How can they succeed in male-dominated professions? Are careers compatible with family life? Three women tell us their stories.

**The Meaning of Marriage**
Marriage was once seen as a social and economic necessity. The equation that marriage makes us happy and divorce is a failure still prevails in many societies. But should women still aspire to marry? In this episode of HER, we explore the different ways women navigate the topic of marriage. What does it mean to them? Why do they decide to get married or not? And is marriage really the key to happiness?
**My Own Kind of Beauty**
From beauty contests to cosmetic surgery, magazines and TV shows: The obsession with women’s beauty is ubiquitous. Images of ideal beauty surround us daily. But what does it actually mean to be “beautiful”? And who sets the standards? HER shows three very personal and very different approaches to what makes a woman beautiful.

**Out of the Void**
In many Asian countries, issues such as mental health and addiction are often swept under the carpet. For those in crisis, this can make it especially hard to address the problem. In this episode of HER, three women look back at difficult periods in their lives. They share their stories and reflect on how they made it out of the void that surrounded them.

**Body and Mind**
Often, they're looking after their families, running households and holding down jobs – all at the same time. That’s why many women forget that they also need to take care of their own health and wellbeing. Asia is the home of traditions dating back thousands of years, such as yoga or traditional Chinese medicine. In this edition of HER, three women share their path to happiness through health and nutrition.

**Motherhood**
While the nuclear family of mother, father and children is still widespread in many Asian countries, it’s changing. More and more children are growing up with single moms. Meet three mothers from different Asian countries and hear their stories. Farheen Ishtiaq Naqvi in Pakistan leads the life of a man in order to provide for her daughter. Young mother Queenie and her husband struggle with the work culture of Hong Kong, which is not very family-friendly. And Dewi Candraningrum from Indonesia fights hard to give her disabled son the help he deserves.

**The Art of Freedom**
Get to know three women from three different Asian countries who have found their own form of expression. How do themes such as femininity, gender roles, women’s rights and violence feature in the works of these female artists? Malaysian artist Yante Ismail paints nude women, challenging the norms of patriarchal society. Uzma Ashraf is a Kathak dancer. Through dance, she learned to relate to her body, which is not easy for a woman in Pakistan. Kartika Jahja, better known as Tika, is an Indonesian musician, a cultural activist and sexual assault survivor. Music helped her through tough times and is now the medium of her activism.
Being My Own Boss

Around the world, women play important roles in business. Either as bosses and high-ranking managers of international corporations, or as self-employed owners and operators of small kiosks, and even founders of start-ups. This edition portrays three women from three different worlds, but they all have one thing in common: passion for their business. They include Louise Mabulo, founder of the Cacao Project in the Philippines, and entrepreneur Uma Hapsari from Indonesia, who created the community Mendaki Kembali, meaning ‘climbing back’, to speak openly about failures. And then there is Wandee, who manages a popular street food stall in Bangkok.

Tech Power

Digitization is changing the world dramatically. What role do they play in that process? In this edition, HER portrays three women whose lives have been significantly shaped by technology. Take hip-hopper Niana Guerrero. Aged just 15, she is the most followed TikTokker in her country, the Philippines, and one of the biggest YouTube stars in Southeast Asia. Or Aulia Halimatussadiah, one of Indonesia’s most influential serial start-up entrepreneurs and founder of ‘Girls in Tech’. And then there is Molly Hunag from Taiwan, whose startup Velodah has developed an app for cyclists.

Talking Money

More and more women are becoming financially independent. What does money mean to them? How do they earn their cash? And how do they spend it? What setbacks have they experienced? Three women from three Asian countries tell us about their relationship to money – such as Filipina actress and philanthropist Angel Locsin. Tutiana Jusat from Malaysia works in the male-dominated banking world with Islamic bonds. And Shikha Mittal from India helps educate women in savings, insurance and investment methods.

My Roots

What role do traditions play in women’s lives? Is it important to move away from one’s roots to lead an independent, self-determined life? Or is it more that the roots themselves provide a secure basis to move ahead? Three women from different Asian countries share their stories on what roots and tradition mean to them. HER sheds a light on how traditions and roots can have such different meanings. For example, for Lauren Sevilla Faustino who decided to leave her modern life in Manila. And from Thailand there’s the story of Andrew’s journey, leaving his roots and transitioning to Anne.
Adrenaline
In the sporting arena, women have become increasingly more visible, scoring Olympic medals, dominating international tournaments, and often becoming celebrities and role models. In recent years, many women athletes have spoken against the injustices they face in their personal and professional lives, such as racism, harassment and sexual assault. In this edition, HER meets three such athletes.

Breaking Chains
Economic insecurity is part of a cycle of disadvantages for women, often caused by discrimination in employment and education. Women often don’t control key assets such as the family home, property, or the right to make financial decisions, further limiting their chances to break the poverty cycle. HER meets three women striving to change that.

Climate Action
People in poverty commonly face higher risks and greater burdens from the impacts of climate change. And the majority of the world’s poor are women. Women’s unequal participation often prevents them from fully contributing to climate-related planning, policy-making and implementation. HER features three climate warriors.

Migration
Migrant women contribute in multiple ways to their countries of origin, transit and destination. They bring diverse talent and expertise and send money back to their families and communities, allowing economies to thrive. Despite their valuable contributions, they face discrimination that impacts their well-being and safety. HER meets three migrants in different countries.

Taking the Lead
Although today many countries are led by women, they are still underrepresented in politics and public life. Attitudes towards female politicians are still largely characterized by deeply ingrained stereotypes. So how do they cope? Three politically active women from three Asian countries tell us their stories.

We are Science
Even though there has been tremendous progress in the number of women participating in higher education, women and girls make up only a minority in science. They are still often directed away from science subjects growing up, limiting their preparation and opportunities to go into these fields as adults. That needs to change.
Black people have been living in Germany for around 400 years, and today there are an estimated one million Germans with dark skin. But they still get asked, "Where are you from?" Jana Pareigis is all too familiar with this often latently racist question. When she was a child, the Afro-German TV presenter also thought her skin color was a disadvantage. "When I was young, I wanted to be white", she says. Pareigis takes us on a trip through Germany from its colonial past up to the present day, visiting other dark-skinned Germans to talk about their experiences. They include rapper Samy Deluxe, pro footballer Gerald Asamoah and Theodor Michael, who lived as a black man in the Third Reich. They talk about what it's like to be black in Germany – and what needs to change.
Facets of Life

45 Min.

Facets of Life documentaries and reports cover culture and education, business and science, historical and contemporary events as well as sports and leisure. A wide variety of issues are investigated in depth and presented in an informative format, making for 45 minutes of captivating television.

584798 001
In Search of a Lost Childhood – The Cruel Fate of Bruno Schulz

For a short time around the turn of the millennium, everyone in Europe was talking about the Jewish Polish painter and writer Bruno Schulz. A German documentary film maker had discovered frescoes that Schulz had been ordered to paint for an SS officer in a villa in Drohobycz, in what is now Ukraine. A short time later, representatives of Yad Vashem removed parts of the pictures and took them to Israel where they are now on display. But what do we really know about Bruno Schulz? He was born in Drohobycz in 1892 and shot there by a Nazi officer in 1942. He created images and stories often set in a fantastical, fairytale realm. He could so easily have been forgotten, but now his literary oeuvre has been translated into 30 languages, a successful Polish group is named after him, and in the town of his birth, artists from all over the world gather to perform his work.

Documentary, 45 min., 2012, SD; Arabic, English, German, Spanish; LR

584798 002
Traces of the Past – German-Jewish Cultural Heritage Worldwide

300,000 German Jews fled their home country during the Nazi era and were forced to rebuild their lives in exile. Their Jewish-European culture gradually blended with that of their adoptive home. “We tried to assimilate the best bits of everything,” says the physicist Ernst Wolfgang Hamburger, who lives in Sao Paulo. Some refugees returned to Germany and brought with them aspects of their host countries, such as Berlin resident Sonja Mühlberger, who spent her childhood in the Chinese city of Shanghai. Donna and Brian Swarthout from the US have come to live in Germany, the land of their ancestors, and to become German citizens.

Documentary, 45 min., 2013, HD; Arabic, English, German, Spanish; LR

584798 003
Get Lucky – Young, Skilled, Enterprising

Marta Pérez has a dream. A young trained nurse from Vigo, she wants to start working in her chosen profession at last. IT expert Dimo Urumov from Plovdiv also spent ages looking for a job in his home country, as did actress Mara Vlachaki from Athens and Paulo Rodrigues, an engineer from Lisbon. Like many other academics and skilled workers from Southern and Eastern Europe, they have few prospects of finding work in their home countries. As a result, hundreds of thousands have come to Germany, where employment stands at record levels but demand for skilled workers is increasing at the same time. Our documentary follows the four from Spain, Bulgaria, Greece and Portugal as they move to Germany and watches them take their first steps in their new lives. Will their hopes and expectations be fulfilled? Will they find their fortune?

Documentary, 45 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, German, Spanish; WW, VoD, M, IFE

584798 004
A Ray of Light – The Lebanon Project

Every summer, young people from Europe volunteer at a summer camp in the Lebanese mountains, where they help disabled people enjoy an unforgettable if brief holiday. The disabled people involved in the Lebanon Project spend the rest of the year in institutions, often in poor conditions.

Documentary, 45 min., 2015, SD; Arabic, English, German, Spanish; WW, VoD, M, IFE
584798 005
A Special Relationship – Germans in Israel. Israelis in Germany
26-year-old Shahak Shapira lives in Germany – even though he has experienced anti-Semitic hostility first-hand, and despite the fact that members of his family were killed in the Holocaust. Moreover, his grandfather died in the Munich massacre, the terrorist attack on the 1972 Olympic Games. Israeli singer Rilli Willow has also settled in Germany. Her great-aunt died in Auschwitz but Rilli married a German and now lives in Berlin. German chef Tom Franz converted to Judaism, has an Israeli wife and lives in Tel Aviv. German writer Sarah Stricker also lives and works in Israel. They are four examples of a new generation of Israelis and Germans who have stepped out of the shadow of the past to prove it’s possible to live together in peace and friendship.
Documentary, 45 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, German, Spanish; WW, VoD, M, IFE

584798 006
90 Minutes for Israel and Germany – Football between Tel Aviv and Berlin
These days Bayern Munich and its various world cup-winning German stars even have fans in Tel Aviv. And when Israeli international Almog Cohen, who now plays for Ingolstadt, steps on the pitch at his former club Nuremberg his German fans wave Star of David flags. Meanwhile, Michael Nees is helping to build the future of Israeli soccer as coach of the country’s under-21 team and as technical director of the Israel Football Association. When West Germany and Israel established diplomatic relations 50 years ago, all this would have been unthinkable. Football continues to play a significant role in normalizing ties between the two countries. What is it like to be a Jewish player in Germany? And how does a German coach in Israel cope with the burden of German history and the Middle East conflict?
Documentary, 45 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, German, Spanish; WW, VoD, M, IFE

584798 007
Generation 25 – Children of German Reunification
25 years after German reunification, we take a look at the generation born in the years 1989 and 1990, a watershed period in German history. Carefully selected portraits show young men and women who have not experienced their nation divided, or the Cold War. They talk about identity, success, career, love, family and life in the digital world. The key focus of the program is how it was to grow up in a country that was fusing itself back together, and their own individual view of Germany.
Documentary, 45 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, German, Spanish; WW, VoD, M, IFE
A Window on ...

Cities are more than just a concentration of houses and people. Great cities have a very special appeal – not just for their residents, but also for visitors from all over the world. It is a joy to explore their beautiful buildings and public spaces, museums, galleries, shops and restaurants. Cities are also places where people go to realize their dreams, to live and to work. A Window on ... takes a look at some of the most fascinating cities in the world – as seen through the eyes of people fortunate enough to live in them.

564805 005
Los Angeles
California Dreamin’: City of dreams and dreamers on the US Pacific coast
Documentary, 30 min., 2013, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564805 009
Asmara
Eritrea’s fascinating capital: African lifestyle and European architecture
Documentary, 30 min., 2013, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564805 011
Edinburgh
Charming and idiosyncratic: The Scottish capital
Documentary, 30 min., 2013, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564805 012
Prague
The Czech Republic’s “Golden City” on the Vltava River: Rich in culture and history
Documentary, 30 min., 2013, SD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564805 015
Rome
The “Eternal City”: Modern life amid ancient walls
Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; IFE, LR

564805 016
Bangkok
Thailand’s exuberant capital: The hub of Southeast Asia
Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564805 017
Saint-Louis
The cultural heart of Senegal: “The Venice of Africa”
Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564805 018
Istanbul
The city that straddles two continents: Turkey’s pearl on the Bosphorus
Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; IFE, LR

564805 019
Hamburg
Germany’s largest port: Gateway to the world
Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564805 020
Melbourne
Australia’s cult metropolis: Cosmopolitan and creative
Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR
564805 021
**Marseille**
The oldest city in France: Mediterranean beauty
Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564805 022
**Hong Kong**
China's global city: Tolerant, freedom-loving and defiantly modern
Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564805 023
**Dakar**
The dynamic capital of Senegal: transport and trade hub for West Africa
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564805 024
**Copenhagen**
From fishing village to metropolis with vision: the green future of the Danish capital
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564805 025
**Havana**
Among crumbling mansions and fashionable stores: Cuba's capital on the path to a new era
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564805 026
**Barcelona**
Proud Catalan metropolis on the Mediterranean: symbiosis of culture and beach life
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564805 027
**Zurich**
Vivacious, international and rich: Switzerland's largest city in the heart of Europe
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564805 028
**Shanghai**
Luxury, smog and skyscrapers: China's art and business metropolis
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; IFE, LR

564805 029
**Isfahan**
Ancient city of kings in the heart of Iran: Between tradition and individualism
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; IFE, LR

564805 030
**Amsterdam**
Life on the canals: Bridges, locks and gabled houses in the Dutch capital
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564805 031
**London**
Arts capital, financial hub, home of the Queen: Britain's vibrant metropolis
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR

564805 032
**Tel Aviv**
Israel's "Hill of Spring": International, liberal and full of joie de vivre
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR
PLACES

564805 033
Paris
Beautiful, magical, grand and cozy: A trip through old neighborhoods of the French capital
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish;
VoD, LR

564805 034
Vancouver
Between mountains and the sea: Canada’s metropolis for nature-loving urbanites
Documentary, 30 min., 2020, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish;
VoD, IFE, LR

564805 035
Singapore
Hypermodern, multicultural and a great place to live: southeast Asia’s green city-state
Documentary, 30 min., 2021, 4K; Arabic, English, Spanish;
VoD, M, IFE, LR

564805 036
Venice
Italy’s legendary lagoon city on the Adriatic: life with and on the water
Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish;
VoD, M, IFE, LR

564805 037
Sarajevo
Mosques, churches and synagogues: Bosnia and Herzegovina’s diverse capital
Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish;
IFE, LR

564805 038
Porto
Bright facades and artistic ceramics: Portugal’s colorful trade hub and port city on the Atlantic
Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish;
IFE, LR

564805 039
Ljubljana
The cultural and economic heart of Slovenia: Youthful, laid-back and creative
Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish;
IFE, LR

564805 040
Algiers
From palaces to steep alleyways: Algeria’s enigmatic capital
Documentary, 30 min., 2021, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish;
VoD, M, IFE, LR

564805 041
Berlin
Historic Sites and Innovative Ideas: Out and About in the German Capital
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish;
LR
Railway Stories

Railways connect places and people. A train journey is a great way to get to know a country and its inhabitants. Our Railway Stories are set on legendary routes and lesser-known lines, in old rolling stock, luxury carriages and high-speed trains. The stories from around the world present people for whom the railway can be many things: an employer, a means of transport or a tourist attraction. The routes lead through landscapes that are of spectacular beauty and rich in history.

564872 001
Along the St. Lawrence Seaway: With the Ocean Train Through Canada
A train journey in Canada is a very special experience: the legendary Ocean Train operates the breathtakingly beautiful route between Montreal and Halifax on the Atlantic coast. Long sections of the 1,200-kilometer trip run alongside the mighty Saint Lawrence River and places of great significance in Canadian history.
Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; IFE, LR

564872 002
On the Adventurers’ Trail: With the Gem Express Through Brazil
Glittering precious stones, adventurers in search of the big find, a Samba queen and Ouro Preto, the gold diggers’ town with its Baroque center – all this awaits travelers on the Brazilian Gem Express from Belo Horizonte to the port city of Vitória north of Rio de Janeiro.
Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564872 003
A Magical Train Journey: On the West Highland Line Through Scotland
Railway enthusiasts agree that the West Highland Line is one of the most stunning routes the world has to offer. The train snakes its way from Glasgow through the Scottish Highlands to the sea. It traverses spectacular countryside along the way: high moorlands, bleak mountains, deep-blue lochs and craggy coastlines.
Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564872 004
A Historic Route: With the Mandalay-Lashio Express Through Myanmar
The Mandalay-Lashio Express connects the humid lowlands with the hilly highlands. The route is more than a century old. Every day, many monks, traders, travelers and smugglers use the historic train service from the metropolis of Mandalay to the northeast of Myanmar.
Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564872 005
A Cruise on Railway Tracks: With the Shongololo Express Through Southern Africa
Shongololo is the Zulu word for a long brown millipede, and it has become the name of a train route. The Shongololo Express travels through South Africa, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Swaziland. It also has minibuses onboard for excursions to places including the Etosha National Park and the Namib Desert.
Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; IFE, LR
**PLACES**

564872 006

*A Trip to Icy Climes: With the Polar Express Through Siberia*

The Yamal Peninsula in Siberia extends far into the Arctic Ocean. It is home to a small community of nomads and their reindeer. The Yamal Polar Express was only inaugurated in 2011. The railroad is owned by the Russian energy concern Gazprom, which uses the route to transport material and workers to the Bovanenkovo natural gas field.

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564872 007

*Andean Train Adventure: With the Tren Crucero Through Ecuador*

One of South America’s most spectacular train routes runs between Guayaquil on the Pacific Ocean and the Ecuadorean capital Quito. The luxury Tren Crucero has just 54 seats and is the only train that travels the entire 450-kilometer route. A highlight of the trip is the Nariz del Diablo or Devil’s Nose, a massive wall of rock. The Tren Crucero navigates the valley by making a series of zigzags and hair-raising horseshoe bends.

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; IFE, LR

564872 008

*From the Past to the Present: Time Travel Through South Korea*

A railway trip through South Korea takes in a culture that’s thousands of years old. It also serves as a reminder of the painful history of this divided nation. The capital Seoul, destroyed in the Korean War, is now a vibrant metropolis. The railway station was built during Japanese colonial rule. With the high-speed Korea Train eXpress, South Korea is showing its modern face to the world.

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564872 009

*The Rhythm of Africa: On the Central Railway Line Through Cameroon*

This journey on the Central Railway Line leads from Douala, Cameroon’s biggest city, to the capital Yaoundé. With a bit of luck, travellers will get to hear some makossa, a home-grown kind of funky dance music. Musicians often play on trains, thereby bringing makossa to every corner of the land.

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564872 010

*Luxury on the Tracks: On the Deccan Odyssey Through Southern India*

A journey on the Deccan Odyssey, a palace on wheels, lasts seven days and covers 1,800 kilometers. Starting in Mumbai, the cobalt-blue luxury train travels through the Indian states of Maharashtra and Goa. The route takes well-heeled passengers off the beaten track, past sleepy railway stations and through magnificent countryside.

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564872 011

*On the Trail of Explorers and Gold diggers: A Trip to the Wilds of Alaska*

In Alaska, the wilderness begins where the city ends. Most tourists set out to explore the northernmost US state from Anchorage, its only major city. A trip on the Alaska Railroad is a particular highlight. Visitors can experience the unspoiled landscapes from the comfort of the viewing car.

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564872 012

*The Magic of Asia: On a Historic Route Through Sri Lanka*

This voyage of discovery leads from the capital Colombo up to Ella in the highlands. The train snakes its way upwards through huge tea plantations. At an elevation of almost 1,900 meters is a place known as Little England, Nuwara Eliya, the highest town in Sri Lanka. A horse-racing track and a golf club are relics of the British colonial era.

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

564872 013

*A View of the Panama Canal: A Train Journey from the Pacific to the Atlantic*

The Panama Canal is definitely more famous than Panama’s railway network. This despite the fact that long before the ships came, trains traversed the country from the Pacific to the Atlantic. Now, people are rediscovering the merits of the railways. It’s a cheap way to transport goods, and passenger trains afford a unique view of the Canal.

Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR
Wild Animals and Dramatic Landscapes – On the Tazara from Dar es Salaam to Kapiri Mposhi
The Tanzania-Zambia Railway – or Tazara for short – covers a distance of almost 2,000 kilometers from the Indian Ocean to the heart of Zambia. Its train drivers often have to persuade elephants, lions or giraffes to get off the tracks so the journey can resume. The route passes through dense forests, uninhabited savanna and high mountains.
Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

A Mediterranean Adventure – By Train Along the Côte Bleue
The best way to explore the diverse beauty of the Côte Bleue in France is by train. The Ligne de la Côte Bleue travels alongside stunning sandy beaches, secluded rocky bays and crystal-clear streams. For more breathtaking views, you can hike along the coastal path: many of these hidden places are only accessible on foot or by train.
Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

From Ulaanbaatar to the Gobi Desert – The Trans-Mongolian Railway
Summer is the best time to travel by train across Mongolia. The raw and rugged steppe landscape is then often bathed in golden light. Alongside the tracks are Buddhist monasteries and villages where people hold fast to the traditions and customs of their ancestors.
Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Breathtaking Gorges and Snowy Peaks – Through the Alps on the Bernina Express
The journey on the Bernina Express between Switzerland and Italy takes about four hours. The train travels across 196 bridges and through 55 tunnels. Its drivers need to be vigilant: high in the Alps, heavy snowfall, rockfalls and landslides can occur at any time. Construction of this extraordinary route began in 1890, with the workers risking life and limb. Today the line has UNESCO World Cultural Heritage status.
Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Through Sabah on Borneo – A Train Adventure on the World’s Third Largest Island
Passengers on the Sabah State Railway can expect to see orangutans and proboscis monkeys, lush rainforests and white sandy beaches. In the east of the Malaysian state of Sabah, the track skirts the coastline before heading further south through the Padas River valley to the island’s interior. Depending on the leg of the journey, you could be in a carriage pulled by an old steam engine, on a regional train or on the bare boards of a freight car.
Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Sudan’s Railways – Moving to Modernize
With more than 4,000 kilometers of tracks, Sudan has one of the largest rail networks in Africa. The British built much of it more than a century ago during the colonial era. Many sections of track are now broken, covered in sand or submerged by the waters of the Nile. But train travel is experiencing a gradual renaissance in Sudan.
Documentary, 30 min., 2022, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
564872 020
High-Tech Meets Tradition – On the Shinkansen from Tokyo to Kanazawa
On the journey from Japan’s capital to Kanazawa, a center of traditional Japanese crafts, the Shinkansen high-speed train route passes through some of the country’s most beautiful places. Here, farmers cultivate wasabi horseradish and craftsmen have been building giant taiko drums for centuries. The film also offers viewers a rare and spectacular insight into the train’s ultra-modern technology, during a test ride with the Shinkansen of the future.
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564872 021
Over Dizzying Viaducts and Through Deep Valleys – Argentina’s “Train to the Clouds”
Argentina’s “Train to the Clouds” is one of the most spectacular train rides in the world. The trip reaches more than 4,000 meters above sea level, which can cause headaches and nausea. Medical personnel with oxygen tanks are always on board. But the incredible views of high plateaus, cactus forests and the driest desert in the world more than make up for any discomforts experienced along the way.
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564872 022
Through Tropical Landscapes – On the Road with the Rameswaram Express
The “hottest route in India” runs through the state of Tamil Nadu. Over 600 kilometers long, this train route stretches from Chennai in the north to Rameswaram in the south. The highlight of the trip is the journey across the two-kilometer Pamban Bridge, which crosses the sea to connect the mainland with the island of Pamban.
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564872 023
Black Sand Beaches and Mountain Peaks – St. Kitts by Train
The St. Kitts Scenic Railway runs on a narrow track along the stunning coast of this Caribbean island. Sugar cane was once transported on this route – from the plantations to the factory in Basseterre, the capital. Today, tourists travel here instead. Old mansions and the ruins of sugar mills can be found all over the island. These are important reminders of the colonial era, when African slaves were forced to labor in the fields for their brutal European colonial masters.
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564872 024
The Reunification Express – By Train Through Vietnam
Vietnam’s North-South railway, running from Hanoi in the north to Ho Chi Minh City in the south, is also known as the Reunification Express. Many consider it a symbol of Vietnam’s reunification in the mid-1970s. A central part of Vietnam’s railway network, it was destroyed and rebuilt several times over the course of several wars. Now, it has been in continuous operation since 1976. Covering a distance of 1,726 kilometers, it’s the longest and most important railroad in Vietnam.
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564872 025
In Dracula’s Footsteps – A Journey through Transylvania
Myths about undead creatures sucking the life out of people exist all over the world. In Europe, such beasts are known as vampires. The most famous of all vampires is Count Dracula. As the story goes, the cruel count lived in Transylvania, in today’s Romania. Nowadays, visitors to this country can visit some key Dracula locations by train, including the castles of Hunedoara and Bran, legendary Dracula haunts that are now popular tourist attractions.
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

564872 026
The Hiram Bingham and the Andean Explorer – A Journey Through the History of Peru
Traveling by train through the Peruvian Andes means traveling on one of the highest and most dangerous routes in the world. Floods and landslides are a constant threat. The Peruvian tracks lead not only to the famous ruined city of Machu Picchu, but also connect the ancient Inca capital of Cusco with Puno, on the shores of Lake Titicaca. Other destinations include the gleaming white city of Arequipa.
Documentary, 30 min., 2023, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
On Island Time

Islands often figure in our dreams and fantasies. We are drawn to the idea of white sandy beaches and clear blue water, remoteness and tranquility. Real islands can be tiny coral reefs or huge expanses of land, nation states with large cities and millions of inhabitants; they can be located in tropical climes or in the icy waters of the Arctic. Many secluded islands have developed their own distinctive flora and fauna.

As for their human inhabitants, there is often talk of an island mentality. Many islanders are closely bound up with the ocean, are involved in maritime trade or fishing, and maintain local traditions. We tell of South Sea islands, natural paradises, islands of fire and ice as well as the lives of island dwellers.

564834  001
Hainan – China’s Tropical Paradise
With its palm-fringed white sand beaches, Hainan is China’s tropical holiday paradise. In the past, the island in the South China Sea was a place of exile for disgraced state officials. But today it’s visited by around 13 million holidaymakers a year – virtually all of them Chinese.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; IFE, LR

564834  002
Usedom – Germany’s Sunshine Island in the Baltic
Usedom, off the German-Polish Baltic coast, is Germany’s sunniest island. Already more than 100 years ago emperors, royalty and aristocrats spent their holidays here. Usedom is best known for its three ‘imperial spa towns’ – Ahlbeck, Bansin and Heringsdorf. They boast magnificent 19th century villas. The beach promenade extends for a total of 12 kilometers, from the German imperial spa towns to the Polish town of Świnoujście – part of the island has been Polish since 1945.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; IFE, LR

564834  003
Cape Verde – Creole Culture off the West Coast of Africa
Green mountains, bare rocks and long beaches: Cape Verde is a beautiful island world in the middle of the Atlantic. The fifteen islands, nine of them inhabited, are located off the coast of West Africa.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; IFE, LR

564834  004
Elba, Montecristo and Gorgona – Italy’s Tuscan Islands
Tuscany is considered one of Italy’s most beautiful regions. The islands just off its coasts are just as diverse and picturesque as the mainland region itself. They combine many of the region’s attractive features in a small space. Mountains, rocky coastlines and sandy beaches make the main island, Elba, seem like a small continent and yet it’s only thirty kilometers long. The islands of the Tuscan Archipelago have been a popular holiday destination since the 1960s.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR

564834  005
Saint Lucia – Caribbean Zest for Life Under the British Crown
There are better-known Caribbean islands, but there are few that could compete with the beauty of Saint Lucia. The island measures a mere six hundred and sixteen square kilometers, but it is brimming with a lavish tropical flora and fauna and Creole joie de vivre. Saint Lucia has an eventful colonial history: the island changed hands between the British and the French fourteen times. Today it is a member of the British Commonwealth.
Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR
VoD, LR 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish;

islands. The Adriatic is a paradise for sailors, while the islands themselves have picturesque landscapes and are home to many historic towns and fishing villages.

Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish;
VoD, LR

Big Island – Hawaii and the Ring of Fire
Hawaii is the 50th federal state of the USA. Lying in the middle of the Pacific, the islands are a world of their own. With about 10,000 square kilometers of surface Big Island is by far the biggest island of Hawaii. With the variety of its sceneries, at the same time it shows an oddity: The island represents almost all of the earth’s climate zones. Two of the five volcanoes on Big Island are active till this day: Mauna Loa and Kilauea.

Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish;
VoD, LR

Capri, Ischia and Procida – In Italy’s Gulf of Naples
The three islands in the Gulf of Naples – Capri, Ischia, and Procida – could scarcely be more different. Capri is a popular destination for day tourists who come to see the famous Blue Grotto or hope to get a glimpse on the “celebrity island” of some famous face from the silver screen. Procida is the smallest of the three islands in the Gulf of Naples and to a certain extent can still be regarded as a secret tip.

Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish;
VoD, LR

The Canaries – Spain’s Volcanic Archipelago
With their subtropical climate and year-round bathing temperatures, the Canary Islands have been attracting large numbers of tourists for over half a century. Today, nine million foreign visitors come to the archipelago every year. Ever since it became known that the Canaries also have a lot to offer mountain bikers, hikers, and divers, more and more young people have been coming to the islands. With turtles and numerous species of ray and shark, as well as vast numbers of fish, marine diversity around the islands makes them a diver’s paradise.

Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish;
VoD, LR

Rodrigues – In the Shadow of Mauritius
The small island of Rodrigues in the Indian Ocean is surrounded by the bottle-green water of a gigantic lagoon that’s rich in fish. Time seems to have stood still here. Because unlike the neighbouring islands of Mauritius and La Réunion, Rodrigues has no mass tourism. Travellers can only get to the island via a small airport on flights from Mauritius or via a ferry that docks in Port Mathurin three times a month.

Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish;
M, IFE, LR

Mallorca and Menorca – Spanish Mediterranean Sisters
The Spanish Mediterranean islands of Mallorca and Menorca are popular with northern and central Europeans looking for beach holidays. Accessible after just a short flight, the islands offer lots of sand and a pleasant beach climate. That’s why tourism here has developed since the 1960s to become the most important economic factor, and it’s brought prosperity to the islands. But off the beaten track of mass tourism and all-inclusive deals, both Mallorca and Menorca have held on to their original character – in remote and lonely mountain regions, in medieval towns in the interior, at village fetes and most recently in a few places along the coast where old traditions are being rediscovered.

Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish;
VoD, LR

The Maldives – Island Realm in the Indian Ocean
White sand, extensive coral reefs, and water as warm as a bath – for many travelers from all over the world, the Maldives are the epitome of a romantic beach holiday. Comprised of over a thousand islands, the archipelago was only discovered as a tourist destination some forty years ago. Since then, the tourism sector has grown at a tremendous pace, and is now the country’s main source of income.

Documentary, 30 min., 2014, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish;
M, IFE, LR
564850  004

Iceland – Nation of Fire and Ice

In Iceland, the forces of nature put on a spectacular show: massive glaciers, powerful waterfalls, seething volcanoes. Mother Nature may appear unwelcoming to humans here, but the Icelanders have come to a beneficial arrangement with her. They extract salt from the sea, bake bread in the hot earth and use the hot springs to heat their greenhouses.

Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

564850  005

The Young South Africa

South Africa is often called the Rainbow Nation, because it is home to people of all different skin colors. This coexistence is not always easy, and of course South Africa has a painful history of colonialism, exploitation and racism. We meet young South Africans who are proud of their country and want to leave the past behind and look to the future with optimism.

Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

564850  006

French Lifestyle in the Canadian Province of Quebec

The Canadian province of Quebec was a French colony for a century and a half. The legacy of that era is still evident today: in the language, food and drink of the region. Quebec is also an area of great natural beauty, with many forests, lakes and rivers. The majestic St. Lawrence River is the province’s lifeline, and its gateway to the world.

Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

564850  007

The Rich Culture of Bangladesh

The inhabitants of Bangladesh refer to their nation fondly as “Sonar Bangla”, which means “Golden Bengal”. The majority-Muslim country is home to many Islamic cultural and architectural gems, but also witnesses to its Hindu and Buddhist past. Signs that times are changing can be found everywhere – but perhaps most evidently in the capital Dhaka.

Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR
564850 008
Jordan – A Pearl of Sand and Stone
Jordan is a fascinating nation that elegantly upholds both traditional and modern lifestyles. In contrast to the fast pace of life in the booming capital Amman and the flourishing tourist resort of Aqaba on the Red Sea, many Bedouins still lead a traditional way of life in the country’s mountains and desert. Jordan is also home to one of the world’s most magnificent treasures: Petra, the ancient city of the Nabataeans, carved out of the rock.
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

564850 009
New Zealand – Dream Destination in the Pacific
Few travel destinations can rival New Zealand for its beauty and diversity. It has everything from icy glaciers to bubbling volcanoes and lush rainforests. And the people have a reputation for being friendly and welcoming. New Zealand also boasts the steepest street in the world, Baldwin Street in the city of Dunedin – with a gradient of 35 percent.
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

564850 010
France’s Sun-Drenched South
The port city of Marseille on the French Mediterranean coast has been working hard to improve its image. Over the past few years, the old town has been rejuvenated and many new museums have been built. About a hundred kilometers to the west is the Camargue, a fascinating marshy landscape that’s home to white horses, black bulls and pink flamingoes.
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

564850 011
Ethiopia – In the Highlands of the Blue Nile
Ethiopia boasts dramatic landscapes and fascinating archaeological sites, including ancient palaces and churches carved into the rock. A trip to Ethiopia is an unforgettable experience. The Blue Nile Falls near the city of Bahir Dar are among the country’s biggest tourist attractions.
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

564850 012
Uruguay – Nation on the Silver River
Uruguay is the second smallest nation in South America and is very sparsely populated. Away from the bustling capital Montevideo, people lead their lives with a disarming serenity. The herds of horses and beef cattle on the pampas form the basis of the country’s economic prosperity.
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR

564850 013
Bhutan – Kingdom in the Himalayas
Bhutan was almost completely isolated from the rest of the world until the 1960s. But the kingdom between India and China is slowly opening up and emerging as an increasingly popular travel destination. A visit to Bhutan feels like stepping back in time: few places in the world can boast such pristine landscapes and traditional ways of life.
Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
Life’s a Beach!
The World’s Finest Seaside Towns

These are some of the world’s most famous places, their names inextricably associated with a yearning for the sea, sand and sunshine. People have been drawn to these locations on the shores of the world’s oceans for generations: Initially, well-heeled visitors came for the health benefits and to stroll along the promenade. But nowadays, people come to coastal resorts for other reasons – many of them of a sporting nature. Places that began life as simple fishing villages have now become prime real estate with grand villas, exclusive restaurants and chic hotels. But despite the rapid pace of development, much of the old charm still remains.

Biarritz – French Sophistication and Sporting Style
Biarritz is undoubtedly stylish and sophisticated, but it also has a wild side. The luxury hotels and pretty villas lining the cliffs overlook the tempestuous waters of the Atlantic Ocean. French Emperor Napoleon III spent his honeymoon here. These days Biarritz is more relaxed and mellow: it has become a paradise for surfers.

Hua Hin – Preferred Destination of Thai Kings
Hua Hin is Thailand’s oldest seaside resort. The royal family came here to escape the heat of Bangkok in the 1920s, injecting Hua Hin with international flair. The town now hosts a well-known jazz festival every year in June. Local people who used to earn their living fishing or farming now run hotels and restaurants.

Usedom – Welcome Escape from the German Capital
Its proximity to the German capital earned Usedom the nickname “Berlin’s Bathtub”. For more than 100 years, holidaymakers have been drawn to the island’s long sandy beaches. While restored villas and quirky wicker beach chairs are a feature of the resorts on the German side of the Baltic island, beaches on the Polish side are the domain of kite surfers.

Forte dei Marmi – Bathing Culture and Italian Dolce Vita
For generations, Italian aristocrats, tycoons and intellectuals have flocked to Forte dei Marmi in Tuscany. The waterfront is lined with bagni, private beach clubs or bathing establishments complete with bar and changing cubicles, sunloungers and parasols. The atmosphere is relaxed, and guests often remain loyal to “their” bagno throughout their lives.
Sochi – The Russians’ Number One Spa

Sochi is a Black Sea resort many Russians dream of visiting. It has everything: Sun, palm trees and invitingly warm sea water. Sochi enjoys a long tradition as a health spa resort offering a range of treatments and massage; its beaches are always full during the high season.

Documentary, 30 min., 2013, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Western Cape – South Africa’s Natural Paradise

Surfers and adventurers have always been drawn to the coastline of South Africa’s Western Cape province, a region characterized by rough winds and rugged landscapes. It all began in Muizenberg, a fishing village discovered by wealthy residents of Cape Town in the late 19th century. Many of their villas and brightly-colored beach huts remain to this day.

Documentary, 30 min., 2013, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; M, IFE, LR
Exploring Germany

Germany is one of the world’s top travel destinations. It boasts not only outstanding natural beauty, but also a huge variety of historic sights and places of interest. The “nation of poets and thinkers” is also the homeland of inventors and composers, explorers and monarchs who have left their mark on German culture. Retrace their steps and you’ll see many magnificent buildings and learn a great deal about the history of Europe along the way. Germany’s most recent history is represented by, for example, the remains of the Berlin Wall, a symbol of the East-West divide. Away from major cities such as Munich or Berlin, special vacation routes guide visitors to interesting and beautiful places across the country.

564842 003
Munich – Bavarian Metropolis with Tradition
Munich’s contemporary role may be to host big names in the technology and automobile sectors, but the city can also look back on a long and vibrant history. The kings of Bavaria put their stamp on their capital with many imposing buildings and institutions, including world-renowned museums. Munich is also famous for its annual Oktoberfest or beer festival, which is now the largest public festival in the world.

564842 004
Experiencing History – German Division, German Unity
For a taste of communist East Germany and the peaceful revolution that brought it to an end in 1990, one should visit Leipzig, where the revolution began with a series of mass demonstrations, and of course Berlin. The eastern part was the capital of the GDR, the western part enclosed by the Berlin Wall. A visit to Eisenhüttenstadt is also fascinating: it was planned as a model socialist city. The once fortified inner-German border has since been replaced with peaceful nature reserves.

564842 005
Tourist Trails – Following Popular Themed Routes
Germany has more than 150 special vacation routes. It’s a good way to gain a more profound understanding of a particular subject or region. The Castle Road, for example, runs past magnificent palaces and castles, some dating back to the Middle Ages. This edition also features the German Wine Route, the Coal, Steam and Light industrial trail, the European Route of Brick Gothic Architecture, and the German Alpine Road.

564842 006
Wintertime – Snowscapes, Winter Sports and Christmas
Winter holidaymakers flock to the many ski resorts in the mountainous regions of Germany. One of the most popular destinations is the Zugspitze, the country’s highest peak. Another seasonal highlight is a visit to one of the many Christmas markets, such as the Striezelmarkt in Dresden. A region with a distinctive traditional flavor is the Erzgebirge, where craftspeople have been making toys and Christmas decorations for many generations.

564842 001
Berlin – A Constantly Changing Capital
To this day, the character of the German capital is still defined by the Berlin Wall, which divided the city into East and West. Berlin is one of the most captivating cities in the world, and not just because of its fascinating history. It has long been regarded as a multi-cultural, creative metropolis with lots of green space and a night life unrivalled for its diversity and exuberance.

564842 002
Time Travel – Retracing the Footsteps of Famous Germans
We visit some key locations in the lives of influential Germans. We go to Berlin to see sites associated with the explorer Alexander von Humboldt, including the Museum of Natural History. Then it is on to Bavaria, where King Ludwig II built magnificent fairytale castles. We also follow in the footsteps of the composer Richard Wagner, the church reformer Martin Luther and the folklorists, the Brothers Grimm.
The three-part documentary series Transoceânica – The World’s Longest Bus Journey takes the viewer through the heart of South America. The series follows a bus that travels from Rio de Janeiro to Lima. The bus trip lasts six days and covers a distance of 6,300 kilometers – a journey of superlatives. A voyage filled with contrast: from the Atlantic, it leads initially through a savannah landscape, then through the Earth’s largest area of wetland, the Amazon jungle, and finally up to the Andes and the Pacific on the western side of the mountain range. The road movie affords the viewer a glimpse into the soul of South America. It shows the beauty of its nature and the pride of its people, but also some of the negatives: environmental pollution, poverty and crime.

584888 001
The Maiden Voyage: From the Copacabana to Cowboys

584888 002
Crossing Jungle, Barricades and Borders: From Brazil to Peru

584888 003
The Final Stage: Over the Andes to Lima
The Rhine is one of Europe’s great rivers, and has long been bound up with myth and mystery. Majestic and romantic, scenic and legendary are just some of the adjectives used to describe it. The French writer Victor Hugo called it a “noble river”. And the English landscape painter William Turner captured the essence of the romantic Rhine.

No other river in Germany is so steeped in legend. For example, it is said that the Nibelung treasure lies on the riverbed near the town of Worms. Further north, the beautiful Lorelei would bewitch hapless sailors with her song and cause them to capsize their boats. The rock that bear her name is visited by tourists from all over the world.

The Rhine not only has its place in myths and legends, songs and poems, it also plays a political and economic role. Whereas it used to serve as a dividing line between “arch enemies” Germany and France, today it unites the two neighbors now perceived as the motor driving European unity. The river serves as a key transport route between the industrial cities along its course and the North Sea. Its banks are strewn with romantic towns and villages drawing tourists with their quaint alleys, picturesque half-timbered houses and countless pubs selling local wines and beers. Another attraction are the region’s many castles, formerly customs posts that brought their owners great wealth and now elegant restaurants and hotels.
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Children

Come and See My World!

Zakayo and Timmy are best friends. Together they undertake a daring journey across Lake Baringo in Kenya to reach an enchanted island. Vi lives in Vietnam; she's afraid of water because she can't swim; she decides it's time to face up to her fears. Everyday problems, commitment to a cause, unusual hobbies, and, time and again, the courage to tackle new challenges: The lives of our protagonists are as varied, interesting and diverse as their home countries. They invite us to take a look: Come and See My World!
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Geilson, the Capoeirista (Brazil)
Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
Dragons, rhinos and kangaroos, flute players and wizards... fairytales are universally popular and fire the imagination of children all over the world. Fairytales are passed on from generation to generation – stories that not only entertain, but also serve to preserve tradition and folklore in all cultures.

In our series Once Upon a Time..., we share fairytales from different countries and cultures all over the world. The stories, some of which are well known and others less familiar, reflect the huge wealth and diversity of fables and fairytales.

Lovingly illustrated, they lead us into a world full of adventure and wisdom.

Come with us on a magical trip around the globe:

724772 001
China – The Flute Player

724772 002
Italy – Cola Pesce

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Poland – Pan Twardowski

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Afghanistan – Little Ahmad Is Still Awake
Tanzania – Giraffe and Rhino

Romania – Youth Without Age and Life Without Death

Russia – Adventure in the Enchanted Forest

Turkey – Keloglan and the Magic Bowl

Bangladesh – The Seven Champa Brothers

Australia – The First Kangaroo

China – Tiger and Fox

India – The Wise Man and His Daughter

Indonesia – The Tale of Manik Angkeran

Arabia – The Fisherman and the Jinni

Afghanistan – The Brown Goat

Brazil – Vitória Régia

Tanzania – Kibo and Mawensi

Denmark – The Little Match Girl

France – The Washerwomen of the Night

Ukraine – Sirko

Persia – The Tale of Ali Muhammad’s Mother

Germany – The Star Talers
YOUTH

Fighting for Our Future

Nina from Indonesia, Gagan from India, Sabyah from Australia and Fatou from Senegal are no longer prepared to stand by and do nothing. They live in different countries on different continents, but they have one thing in common: Their lives are directly impacted by climate change and pollution. They’re worried about their future and are dismayed at the apparent disinterest of many adults. And they’re fighting with all their might to try and put things right!

764950 001
Nina’s Fight Against Plastic Waste
Nina sifts through mountains of garbage in Bangun, a little village on the Indonesian island of Java. The plastic trash comes from all over the world, including the US, Europe and Canada, and in effect winds up on Nina’s doorstep. Nina and her friends plan an exhibition at their school to raise public awareness of the problem. Some of the trash has come here through legal channels, but some plastic waste transports to Indonesia are illegal. That makes Nina see red. She knows she has to take the matter to the top, and writes letters to politicians in Germany and the US. During the exhibition, she collects signatures for a petition against the import of plastic waste. Nina hopes she can convince industrialized nations to halt their waste exports.

764950 002
Gagan’s Fight Against Air Pollution
In the Indian state of Punjab, Gagan is confronted with the fatal effects of industrial farming. Every year, the illegal burning of stubble after harvesting results in catastrophic levels of air pollution. The smog spreads to the capital Delhi, a seven-hour drive away. Schools there are forced to close, but not in Punjab. The problem is exacerbated by the large-scale use of chemicals in industrial farming that pollute the air, ground and water. The environmental damage is making many people in Punjab ill. Together with her friends, Gagan is planning a demonstration in her village. She is certain that if she and her friends keep up the pressure and continue their anti-pollution campaign, at some point the adults will have to listen.
Sabyah's Fight Against Coal Mining
For as long as she can remember, Sabyah has enjoyed snorkeling on the world-famous Great Barrier Reef off the coast of Australia. But this wonder of nature is under threat. Many of the once vibrant and colorful corals are now bleached and dead. Sabyah knows the cause - climate change. Rising air temperatures are making the seas warmer. Two degrees is all it takes to kill the coral. That's why Sabyah is taking a stand against the building of a huge new coalmine nearby. When it comes to fuel sources and their impact on the environment, coal is the worst offender. But Sabyah struggles to rally support for her protest. Many people depend on the coal mining sector in her home state of Queensland. The alarming impact of climate change casts a threatening pall over the livelihoods of an entire region.

Fatou's Fight Against Water Scarcity
Fatou lives in Senegal on the edge of the Sahara, in a tiny village without running water. For a few years now, the rains have come with less frequency; periods of drought have been getting longer. Every day, Fatou has to fetch water with a donkey cart for the 19 people who live in the village. Fatou dreams of becoming a doctor. To do that she needs to keep her grades up. But when she returns home from school, her afternoons are spent fetching water. There's not much time left for study. If her village had access to water, that would improve her prospects. Fatou's uncle tells her about the United Nations' water program. Villages in especially arid regions are given large tanks to collect rainwater. Will Fatou be able to secure a tank like that for her village?
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## SPORTS

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## MOTORING

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The Power of Sports

Sport is the world's most popular leisure pursuit, quite apart from major competitions and international leagues. But sport is also much more: It has the ability to connect and inspire people regardless of their age, social status and background. The Power of Sports observes those who seek passion, concentration, team spirit, competition and recognition through sport – people who have succumbed to its fascination.

464835  001
The Beautiful Game – Amazonia’s Most Eccentric Soccer Tournament
In the world’s largest amateur soccer tournament, the Peladão, 700 teams battle it out for victory and recognition over a period of four months. The competition runs in parallel with a beauty pageant. Each beauty queen is assigned to a soccer team and her success can further the squad’s chances in the overall results, even if it loses.

Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

464835  002
Arsenal Double Club – Learning Languages through Soccer
A unique initiative in Britain sees talented youngsters aged between 12 and 15 improving not only their performance on the soccer pitch but also their language skills. Arsenal stars such as Lukas Podolski, Per Mertesacker and Serge Gnabry often stop by to offer advice and encouragement. It's a very special opportunity for kids from a variety of social backgrounds to broaden their experience.

Documentary, 30 min., 2015, SD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

464835  003
Alone Against the Ocean – Crossing the Atlantic in a Rowboat
In the Rames Guyane race, rowers from all over the world attempt to cross the Atlantic using sheer muscle power. The film observes three men as they set out from Senegal, bound for French Guiana, in special rowing boats fit for the rigors of the high seas. In their solo battle against the forces of nature and their own physical limits, one thought should keep them going: The way is the goal.

Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

464835  004
Training for Life – Brazil’s Social Soccer Projects
The world’s most dangerous slums are found in the city of Rio de Janeiro. For many children and youngsters living in the favelas, everyday life is defined by poverty, violence and a lack of prospects. As well as offering a welcome diversion, soccer can also go some way to addressing the lack of social infrastructure. A coach from the German Soccer Association supports a number of local initiatives, helping kids improve their game and their social skills.

Documentary, 30 min., 2015, SD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR
464835 005
**Skating in the Himalayas – Indian Women Play Ice Hockey**
The region of Ladakh in the very north of India lies on a high plain, and it’s freezing cold there for many months of the year. Ice hockey is a very popular sport, and it’s attracting an increasing number of women. One of the most successful female teams is that of the SECMOL youth program. Ice hockey is an important element of the curriculum for this educational initiative.
**Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR**

464835 006
**Soccer in the Mountains – Peru’s Female Kickers**
Women from a Peruvian village in the Andes play soccer at an elevation of 4,000 meters – in full traditional costume and according to their own set of rules. One of the ways they train for their matches against other female teams is to undertake long and strenuous hikes. The effort pays off – their sporting success even helps them to attain political influence in their local community.
**Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR**

464835 007
**Surfin’ Persia – Riding the Waves in a Hijab**
Three sportswomen are striving to establish the sport of surfing in Iran. At first, the idea met with criticism in this male-dominated society; but before long entire families were turning out to watch the women surf, dressed in neoprene suits and hijabs. The sport has even found favor with a local member of parliament in this remote corner of southeastern Iran, and the decision has been taken to teach youngsters here how to surf.
**Documentary, 30 min., 2015, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR**

464835 008
**Open Water Race – Australia’s Courageous Swimmers**
Every year, thousands of swimmers from all over the world pit themselves against the tides of the Indian Ocean. In the Rottnest Channel Swim, contestants have to cover a distance of 20 kilometers out in the open sea. Rough waters, unpredictable weather and the enormous distance make this event one of the world’s most demanding swimming competitions.
**Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR**

464835 009
**Fighting with a Heart – Italy’s Venerable Boxing Master**
For more than 50 years, Lucio Zurlo has been running a boxing studio in a poor and tough neighborhood of Naples. He is a successful coach: several of his protégés have won titles. Though the ‘maestro’, as everybody calls him, is approaching 80, he still personally looks out for his students every day, and has helped many stay away from a life of crime.
**Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR**

464835 011
**Winning Girl – Hawaii’s Aspiring Judo and Wrestling Champ**
Teshya’s life revolves completely around judo and wrestling. Her family is totally supportive, accompanying her to every competition, convinced that one day Teshya will be the best. This is the story of an elite athlete on her way to the top of her sport and of a girl facing the challenges of growing up.
**Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR**

464835 012
**The Wadi Rum Cup – Jordan’s Royal Horse Race**
Wadi Rum, Jordan’s best-known desert landscape, provides the backdrop for an iconic endurance race. Once a year some 70 participants from all over the world compete in the race over a distance of 120 kilometers. Heat, sand and powerful gusts of wind make this a hugely challenging event for both the horses and their riders.
**Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR**

464835 013
**Tour du Faso – Africa’s Greatest Bike Race**
The Tour du Faso is regarded as the friendlier African version of the Tour de France. In temperatures of up to 40 degrees Celsius in the shade, African pros and more adventurous European riders compete over a 10-stage course across the savannah of Burkina Faso. When European perfectionism meets the African fighting spirit, and sand tracks meet high-tech, it quickly becomes clear that anything is possible.
**Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR**

464835 014
**Football Made in Germany – The Secret of its Success**
German soccer has long been regarded as a success story, certainly since the national squad won its fourth world championship title. This success is based on a unique system of promoting gifted young players that involves a nationwide network of talent scouts, intensive training at special centers, right through to the U21 national team. A look behind the scenes of the German Football Association’s recruitment and coaching program.
**Documentary, 30 min., 2016, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR**

464835 015
**Barefoot on the Court – Basketball in the Mexican Highlands**
The Triqui tribe lives in the Oaxaca highlands of southern Mexico. Their main sport is basketball. And although space is in short supply up in the mountains, there’s always room for a small court where players, most of them barefoot, can train for the next tournament. Every year, some 300 children try out for one of the sought-after spaces on the junior coaching program.
**Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR**
For the Love of Baseball – Supporting the Sport in Havana
Herb Schneider fled Nazi persecution in Austria and found refuge in Cuba in 1941. Two years later he settled in the US. Seven decades on, his young grandson Mica, who is crazy about baseball, finds out that poor kids in Cuba also love the sport but often can't find or afford the right equipment, so he comes up with an ambitious plan to help.
Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Surfing for a Better Future – A Moroccan Story
A former Moroccan surfing pro is using the allure of the waves to try to secure a better future for street children: He teaches them how to surf at his beach club, and thereby also imparts values such as environmental awareness and community spirit. But only those who get good grades at school are allowed to join in.
Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

For the Love of Falconry – A Woman Takes up the Challenge
The Al Galayel Championship in Qatar is the most important hunting and falconry contest on the Arabian Peninsula. Every year, teams compete against each other in traditional Arab hunting techniques. German national Laura Wrede will be the first woman ever to take part. She has been practicing her camel handling and training with her falcons every day in preparation for the event.
Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

At Maximum Capacity – Extreme Diving
Axel and Nik are among the best divers in Germany and thrive on extreme adventures. As one explores a narrow cave complex or searches for a shipwreck, the other aims to break the world record in freediving under ice. Both are acutely aware of their limits, as in diving hubris can be fatal.
Documentary, 30 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; IFE, LR

Football, My Other Life – Discover Football in Goa
For girls in India, football can promote empowerment, women’s rights and gender equality. More than a hundred took part in the Discover Football Festival in Goa. Farheen is a Muslim from Mumbai, who is new to the game; Cynthia, a Christian from Goa, who dreams of becoming a professional; and Tsomo, a Buddhist from Tibet. They all love football and have come to Goa to play together.
Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; VoD, M, IFE, LR

Surfing and Ice – Riding the Waves in Russia
Surfers are discovering the extreme charms of the remote Kamchatka Peninsula in the far east of Russia, where the scenery is spectacular, the waves excellent, and the air and water shockingly cold in winter. A dedicated group of Russian surfers is keen to prove to foreign surfers and fellow Russians that surfing is totally cool, literally.
Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Soccer Behind Bars – Playing in a Hamburg Jail
Their pitch may be surrounded by high walls, but a match means 90 minutes of freedom. The team is made up of prisoners. For coach Gerd Mewes, what matters is not the crimes the men have committed but their soccer skills. The prison squad takes part in the local league. The only constraint is they can't play away games.
Documentary, 30 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR
The Jersey Hammerheads – Swimming for Self-Esteem
Because it was hard to get their autistic son Mikey into a sports club where they live in New Jersey, USA, Maria und Mike decided to found their own swim team for autistic youngsters. The joint training sessions are invigorating and give them new confidence. The swimmers have already clocked up numerous successes, boosting their self-esteem and helping them manage the challenges of their daily lives.

Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

For the Love of Soccer – The Rebels From Manchester
When Manchester United was purchased by a billionaire in 2005, a group of devoted fans, dismayed by the commercialization of British soccer, founded their own football club – United of Manchester – under the banner ‘Fans First!’. It’s owned by its fans and is semi-professional. It is proving rather successful, but is there a risk it might lose sight of its original down-to-earth character?
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, LR

With Blowpipe, Bow and Canoe – The Amazonian Olympics
Since 1996, Brazil’s Inter Tribal Council has been hosting national Indigenous Games. They are intended as a celebration of the culture, traditions and spirituality of native peoples. Athletes test their strengths in a variety of disciplines including tug-of-war, shooting with blowpipe and bow and arrow, canoeing and ball games. But above all else, this gathering enables participants to travel, get to meet other ethnic groups and discuss shared interests.
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, LR

The Le Mans Challenge – Frédéric Sausset’s Incredible Race
Several years ago, the French entrepreneur Frédéric Sausset was afflicted by a life-threatening infection with multi-resistant bacteria. As the infection spread, his left arm, right hand and both of his lower legs had to be amputated. Despite his compromised physical condition, he decided he wanted to take part in the 24 Hours of Le Mans car race. Against all the odds, he found sponsors and team partners – and completed the race!
Documentary, 30 min., 2019, HD; Arabic, English, Portuguese, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR
Chasing the Rush

You do have to be just a little bit crazy to do this kind of thing: Extreme sportsmen and women are not content with regular challenges. They need to push themselves to the limits of their physical and mental capacity, and sometimes even beyond those limits. The pains and strains, the dangers and fears that would deter most mere mortals, serve only to spur them on and provide them with the incentive to continue. For them, the greatest satisfaction comes once the challenge is over, when they are able to say: “I did it.”

Hooked on Adrenaline

What is it that drives adrenaline junkies to take ever greater risks? Psychologists, researchers and emergency medics have no clear answer to that question. Some people, they say, seek out risk to compensate for their monotonous everyday lives. Others use it to escape the fact that their biographies are somewhat lacking. One thing is certain: When some people seek out a challenge, then it has to be an extreme one.

Bavarian Rodeo

The tradition of ox racing in the southern German town of Haunshofen is certainly no Olympic discipline, but it does have one thing in common with the Games in that it takes place every four years. Each rider has his own training methods, which can only be put to the test on race day itself. That is when success depends entirely on whether the oxen decide they want to run or not.

Jumps from Dizzying Heights

They jump from buildings, bridges and cliff tops and only open their parachutes on the way down. BASE jumpers are practitioners of what is perhaps the world’s most dangerous sport. They themselves fully expect that one of their risky jumps might one day cost them their lives, but they are not put off by that prospect. “When your time’s up, your time’s up” is their simple philosophy, one that empowers them to perform their daring feats.
Sports history tells us that soccer originated in England. But a form of the game was played in China some 2,300 years ago in the city of Linzi, the capital of the kingdom of Qi. The winners were awarded prizes, while the losers were flogged. Other versions of what we call football are associated with Egypt, Greece, the Roman Empire, and France. But it was in England in 1863 that the Football Association was founded which drew up the first rules of the game as we know it today.

From England the sport spread throughout the world. International matches and Olympic tournaments first made soccer popular in Europe. Then, in the 1920s the game also conquered Latin America.

The first World Cup tournament was held in Uruguay in 1930. In the final in Montevideo, the host nation defeated Argentina. The next two tournaments, 1934 and 1938, were won by Italy. In 1938 Indonesia became the first Asian nation to qualify for the World Cup finals. The 1950 tournament in Brazil saw Uruguay emerge as champions for the second time. Four years later the sensational winners in the Swiss capital, Berne, were West Germany who surprisingly defeated the hot favorites, the Magical Magyars from Hungary. In Sweden in 1958 a young man called Pelé burst on to the scene and helped Brazil become world champions for the first time.

Brazil retained their crown in Chile in 1962. Four years later, just over a century after the Football Association was founded, the tournament was held for the first time in England.

The group matches provided a sensation as North Korea knocked out one of the favorites, Italy. The final between England and West Germany was a thriller with England emerging victors by four goals to two, although one of their goals was highly controversial. In the years that followed, African and Asian teams made tremendous advances. With superstar Pelé in the side, in Mexico in 1970 Brazil became world champions for the third time. Four years later the tenth World Cup tournament was held in West Germany. In the final the host nation defeated the much-fancied Dutch by two goals to one.

32 years later, Germany once again played host to a World Cup tournament – and it was one to remember. The weather was glorious, the games exciting and the atmosphere amongst the fans friendly and relaxed. Italy secured its fourth World Cup title, while the German team thrilled the host nation by reaching the semi-final. But no sooner is one World Cup over, than preparations for the next begin.
Motoring Legends

The Mercedes 300 SL was technically superb, the jeep is the mother of all SUVs, and the Citroën DS was and still is simply wonderful. Such vehicles are icons of the zeitgeist that prevailed when they were built. They also exert an influence on contemporary design – because they stand out from the crowd, have character and a story to tell. Some are admired or even adored by all – designers, engineers, vintage car fans and neutral observers alike – as vehicles of legendary status.

464906 001
Mercedes 300 SL – The Gullwing
The Mercedes 300 SL was way ahead of its time in terms of both design and technology. The powerful grand tourer was introduced in 1954 and was an instant hit with the wealthy. But not many units were produced, and now they’re worth more than a million euros each.

464906 002
NSU Ro 80 – The Wankel Car
The Ro 80 was arguably one of the most innovative vehicles of its time. It was introduced in 1967, boasting clean, modern, airy and aerodynamic design and a Wankel engine. Though it proved to be a financial disaster for its manufacturer, it influenced the design of later generations of cars.

464906 003
Jeep – Pioneer of the 4WD Car
The Jeep began life as a small four-wheel-drive US military vehicle in 1941, built by Willys-Overland and Ford. It went on to become a legend, and it’s the forebear of all contemporary off-road vehicles and SUVs.

464906 004
Opel Kapitán – The Status Symbol
A cooler grille that looks like a shark’s mouth, panoramic windows, six cylinders: The Opel Kapitán was a symbol of burgeoning European wealth after World War Two. A motorists’ dream in the 1950s and 1960s, it was on a par with Mercedes models during this period.

464906 005
Citroën DS – The Floating Goddess
The heavenly Déesse doesn’t travel, it glides. Its unique blend of harmonious design and innovative engineering didn’t just captivate car fans in the 1950s and 1960s. To this day, it’s considered a technology and style icon, the embodiment of Modernism, one of the greatest design objects of the century.

464906 006
VW Bus – The Versatile
Originally designed for use within Volkswagen factories, the VW Bus became a huge success story, like the VW Beetle. It has been built in innumerable variations for every possible purpose; it also developed a reputation as the legendary wheels for hippies. So far, six generations have been introduced; and more than 11 million vans have rolled off the production line – with no end in sight.

464906 007
Opel Manta – The Stereotype
In the 1980s, few cars were the butt of so many jokes in Germany as the Opel Manta. Dismissed as a car for posers and a pretend sports car, the Manta was born as a mid-market family coupé and ended up in the car tuner’s shed, where it was often subjected to tasteless modifications.
MotorMania

Motor racing. The latest car technology. Classic cars. Automobile design: MotorMania is the ideal swift introduction to all issues concerned with mobility. For motor racing enthusiasts, tuning fans and anyone interested in technology. Or simply for all those fascinated by the subject of four-wheel transport.

Application & Tips
How does global car sharing work? When does it make sense to use winter tires? What should you watch out for when you’re buying a car? MotorMania provides helpful tips and answers to everyday motoring questions, unveils innovative ideas and presents new possibilities for mobility arising from technological advances. 06 x 03 min.

Classic Cars
Despite all the innovations on the market, classic cars still enthrall and delight: the elegant forms, gleaming chrome, and engines motorists can still tinker with themselves. When it comes to the classics of automobile history, these are the cars that get pulses racing and have fans all over the world. 22 x 03 min.

Racing & Events
You won’t find these cars in any car dealership. They have been tuned for maximum performance or simply to get noticed. Most are only authorized for the racetrack, and carmakers use them to test out technology and to showcase their performance potential. In the exotic world of car tuning, extreme models are lovingly customized by their owners to make them stand out from the crowd. 07 x 03 min.

Technology, Development & Design
Car manufacturers are developing new technologies to make road travel safer, greener and more modern. The global race to find the most efficient drive technology, the most intuitive cockpit or the most attractive vehicle design means exciting and innovative new products are coming on the market on an almost daily basis. 16 x 03 min.
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▶ MAIN MENU
Ludwig van Beethoven’s 9th Symphony is one of the most popular pieces of classical music in the world. Countless people are familiar with its Ode to Joy.

Beethoven composed it during a time of personal and political crisis. He was struggling financially and as his deafness worsened, his social isolation became yet more acute. He also suffered from worsening ill-health, partly caused by his consumption of wine apparently contaminated with lead. Beethoven completed the 9th Symphony in 1824.

Thirty-five years after the French Revolution ushered in liberty, equality and fraternity, there was little left of these aspirations in Europe. Instead, life was marked by war and oppression.

Despite the grim context in which it arose, the 9th Symphony leaves us fascinated, moved and elated by its creativity, its power and its culmination in the Ode to Joy. More than 160 years after it was written, Beethoven’s hymn to brotherhood was adopted by the European Union as its official anthem. But Beethoven’s Ninth is also met with enthusiasm far beyond the borders of Europe. What’s the explanation for its enduring success? What is it about this work that fascinates people all over the world?

To mark the 250th birthday of Ludwig van Beethoven, Symphony for the World travels around the globe from Europe to South America, Asia and Africa. We meet extraordinary musicians who interpret Beethoven’s Ninth in new and different ways, sometimes forging ties to the musical tradition of their home countries. These musical encounters are profound and personal, yet they always draw us back to Beethoven himself and the turbulent times he lived in.
Celebrating Ludwig van Beethoven’s 250th birthday, the world is paying tribute to a cultural icon, a genius, a wildly popular composer – and a deeply radical artist who expanded the horizons of music and who engaged with the political upheavals of his time.

It is said that Beethoven changed the world. But what does that mean? Can an individual artist influence the course of (musical) history? And how do we gauge the extent of that influence? One way to find some answers might be to imagine a world in which there had been no Beethoven!

How would the film composers of today set the mood without the nuances of instrumentation created by Beethoven in his symphonies? What would jazz be without the syncopation found in Beethoven’s later works? And aren’t all rock music riffs based on Beethoven’s famous “da-da-da-daaa”, the shocking opening notes of his 5th symphony?

So Beethoven is clearly still with us. His works are performed around the world. He is an inspiration to artists who engage with politics. The anthem of the European Union derives from his 9th symphony. And he also wrote the first ever solo for horn!

Sarah Willis, French horn player with the Berlin Philharmonic and a well-known music educator, explores Beethoven’s enduring influence in conversation with musicians and experts – among them film composer John Williams, jazz trumpeter Wynton Marsalis, the Brazilian musician and former political refugee Chico Buarque, the multitalented Van Dyke Parks, rock guitarist Rudolf Schenker, and the director of the Vienna Musikverein concert hall Thomas Angyan. We also hear excerpts from works by the master himself.
Beethoven wrote the most famous sequence of notes in Western music history: the first four notes of his Fifth Symphony. But, tragically, he could not hear the wonderful music he created because he was deaf.

The work of Ludwig van Beethoven, who was born in Bonn in 1770 and died in Vienna in 1827, brought the Viennese School to its stylistic zenith, and thereby served as a bridge between Classicism and Romanticism.

For much of his life Beethoven suffered from various illnesses and was often in great pain. He died at the age of 56. For decades, researchers have tried to reconstruct the progression of his illnesses and seek clues as to the cause of his death.

Analysis of strands of his hair by scientists in the US suggests Beethoven died from lead poisoning. That might also explain his deafness, mood swings and angry outbursts. But it is not clear why he should have been exposed to a lot of lead.

There are also questions about the history of the lock of hair that was brought to the US for analysis. One day after Beethoven died, his friend the pianist and composer Johann Nepomuk Hummel visited his apartment to bid him farewell. Beethoven's body was laid out in his coffin. Hummel was accompanied by a young student of his named Ferdinand Hiller, who cut off the lock of hair as a memento. It was kept by the Hiller family and passed on as an heirloom through the generations. The lock came into the possession of a doctor in a small town in Nazi-occupied Denmark. Who gave him the hair? Why? Nobody knows. Half a century later, in 1994, his daughter sold it at Sotheby's in London. The two Americans who acquired it commissioned the forensic analysis, which found the level of lead in Beethoven's hair to be 100 times higher than normal.
Music is a language of emotions that needs no words and is understood by everyone. The poet Rainer Maria Rilke called it "language where languages end", and the violinist Yehudi Menuhin once said: "Music speaks for itself – if we give it a chance."

In the series Masters of Classical Music, European music from all periods is given a chance: From Baroque and Rococo to Classical and Romantic and beyond. The music is interpreted by outstanding orchestras and soloists from all over the world. Conductors include such eminent artists as Claudio Abbado, Daniel Barenboim, Pierre Boulez and Sir Simon Rattle.

604849 001
Antonín Dvořák:
Symphony No 9 in E Minor op. 95
"From the New World"
Berlin Philharmonic, Conductor: Claudio Abbado
Live Music, 50 min., 2015, HD; VoD, M, IFE, LR

604849 002
Johannes Brahms:
Violin Concerto in D Major op. 77
Berlin Philharmonic,
Conductor: Claudio Abbado, Soloist: Gil Shaham
Live Music, 41 min., 2015, HD; VoD, M, IFE, LR

604849 003
Johann Sebastian Bach:
Magnificat in D Major BWV 243
Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra & Choir,
Conductor: Ton Koopman
Live Music, 30 min., 2015, HD; VoD, M, IFE, LR

604849 004
Gustav Mahler:
Symphony No 5 in C Sharp Minor
Lucerne Festival Orchestra,
Conductor: Claudio Abbado
Live Music, 68 min., 2015, HD; VoD, M, IFE, LR

604849 005
Richard Strauss:
An Alpine Symphony
Staatskapelle Dresden,
Conductor: Giuseppe Sinopoli
Live Music, 56 min., 2015, HD; VoD, M, IFE, LR
604849 006
Béla Bartók:
Concerto for Orchestra
Berlin Philharmonic, Conductor: Pierre Boulez
Live Music, 42 min., 2015, HD; VoD, M, IFE, LR

604849 007
Igor Stravinsky:
The Firebird
Berlin Philharmonic, Conductor: Sir Simon Rattle
Live Music, 43 min., 2015, HD; VoD, M, IFE, LR

604849 008
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart:
Piano Concerto No 17 in G Major, KV 453
Cleveland Orchestra, Conductor: Franz Welser-Möst,
Soloist: Leif Ove Andsnes
Live Music, 29 min., 2015, HD; VoD, M, IFE, LR

604849 009
Ludwig van Beethoven:
Piano Concerto No 1 in C Major op. 15
Staatkapelle Berlin,
Conductor and Soloist: Daniel Barenboim
Live Music, 37 min., 2015, HD; VoD, M, IFE, LR

604849 010
Felix Mendelssohn: Scottish Symphony
Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra,
Conductor: Riccardo Chailly
Soloist: Lang Lang
Live Music, 39 min., 2015, HD; VoD, M, IFE, LR

604849 012
Gustav Mahler:
Symphony No. 2 in C Minor
“Resurrection Symphony”
Gewandhausorchester Leipzig,
Conductor: Riccardo Chailly
Live Music, 90 min., 2015, HD; VoD, IFE, LR

604849 006
Ludwig van Beethoven:
Symphony No. 3 in E Flat Major “Eroica”, op. 55
Lucerne Festival Orchestra,
Conductor: Claudio Abbado
Live Music, 60 min., 2015, HD; VoD, IFE, LR

604849 014
Johannes Brahms:
Tragic Overture in D Minor, op. 81
Lucerne Festival Orchestra,
Conductor: Claudio Abbado
Live Music, 17 min., 2015, HD; VoD, IFE, LR

604849 015
Franz Schubert:
Symphony No. 8 in B Minor “The Unfinished”
Budapest Festival Orchestra,
Conductor: Ivan Fischer
Live Music, 28 min., 2015, HD; VoD, IFE, LR

604849 016
Anton Bruckner: Symphony No. 9 in D Minor
Budapest Festival Orchestra,
Conductor: Ivan Fischer
Live Music, 61 min., 2015, HD; VoD, IFE, LR

604849 017
Johannes Brahms:
Symphony No. 1 in C Minor, op. 68
Verbier Festival Orchestra,
Conductor: Charles Dutoit
Soloist: Martha Argerich
Live Music, 46 min., 2015, HD; VoD, IFE, LR

604849 007
Igor Stravinsky:
The Firebird
Berlin Philharmonic, Conductor: Sir Simon Rattle
Live Music, 43 min., 2015, HD; VoD, M, IFE, LR

604849 008
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart:
Piano Concerto No 17 in G Major, KV 453
Cleveland Orchestra, Conductor: Franz Welser-Möst,
Soloist: Leif Ove Andsnes
Live Music, 29 min., 2015, HD; VoD, M, IFE, LR

604849 009
Ludwig van Beethoven:
Piano Concerto No 1 in C Major op. 15
Staatkapelle Berlin,
Conductor and Soloist: Daniel Barenboim
Live Music, 37 min., 2015, HD; VoD, M, IFE, LR

604849 010
Felix Mendelssohn: Scottish Symphony
Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra,
Conductor: Riccardo Chailly
Soloist: Lang Lang
Live Music, 39 min., 2015, HD; VoD, M, IFE, LR

604849 012
Gustav Mahler:
Symphony No. 2 in C Minor
“Resurrection Symphony”
Gewandhausorchester Leipzig,
Conductor: Riccardo Chailly
Live Music, 90 min., 2015, HD; VoD, IFE, LR
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<th>ID</th>
<th>Composer</th>
<th>Work Title</th>
<th>Orchestra</th>
<th>Conductor</th>
<th>Soloists</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<td>018</td>
<td>Gustav Mahler</td>
<td>Symphony No. 9 in D Major</td>
<td>Gewandhausorchester Leipzig,</td>
<td>Riccardo Chailly</td>
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<td>87 min</td>
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<td>Franz Schubert</td>
<td>Symphony No. 9 in C Major &quot;The Great&quot;</td>
<td>Orchestre de Paris, Conductor: Christoph von Dohnanyi</td>
<td>Live Music, 56 min.</td>
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<td>Ludwig van Beethoven</td>
<td>Piano Concerto No. 3 in C Minor, op. 37</td>
<td>Orchestre de Paris, Conductor: Christoph von Dohnanyi</td>
<td>Live Music, 37 min.</td>
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<td>2015</td>
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<td>021</td>
<td>Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky</td>
<td>Violin Concerto in D major op. 35</td>
<td>Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra</td>
<td>Live Music, 45 min.</td>
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<td>2019</td>
<td>VoD, LR</td>
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<td>022</td>
<td>Joseph Haydn</td>
<td>Sinfonia Concertante in B flat major op. 84</td>
<td>Israel Philharmonic Orchestra</td>
<td>Live Music, 23 min.</td>
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<td>2019</td>
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<td>023</td>
<td>Camille Saint-Saëns</td>
<td>Cello Concerto No. 1 in A minor op. 33 and &quot;The Swan&quot;</td>
<td>Verbier Festival Chamber Orchestra</td>
<td>Live Music, 27 min.</td>
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<td>2019</td>
<td>VoD, IFE, LR</td>
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<td>024</td>
<td>Ludwig van Beethoven</td>
<td>Symphony No. 6 in F major op. 68 'Pastoral'</td>
<td>Berlin Philharmonic</td>
<td>Live Music, 45 min.</td>
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<td>025</td>
<td>Edvard Grieg</td>
<td>Peer Gynt Suites No. 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra</td>
<td>Live Music, 47 min.</td>
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<td>2019</td>
<td>VoD, IFE, LR</td>
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<td>026</td>
<td>Hector Berlioz</td>
<td>Symphonie fantastique op. 14</td>
<td>Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra</td>
<td>Live Music, 53 min.</td>
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<td>2019</td>
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<td>027</td>
<td>Sergei Rachmaninoff</td>
<td>Piano Concerto No. 2 in C minor op. 18</td>
<td>Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra</td>
<td>Live Music, 34 min.</td>
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<td>028</td>
<td>Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy</td>
<td>Violin Concerto in E minor op. 64</td>
<td>MusicAeterna</td>
<td>Live Music, 26 min.</td>
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<td>2019</td>
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Edward Elgar’s “Land of Hope and Glory”
“Land of Hope and Glory” is the most popular British hymn and the best-known work of the British composer Edward Elgar. Whether played in the concert hall or the soccer stadium, the music is recognizable to everyone after just a few notes. To this day, the piece serves as England’s unofficial national anthem – a song used to celebrate a nation, but also to take it into war. When Elgar realized just how much his work had become associated with death and suffering, he withdrew from public life and ceased composing, devoting himself solely to observation of the natural world. Nevertheless, he will always be remembered for this hymn above all else.

Documentary, 60 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR

Sergei Prokofiev’s “Peter and the Wolf”
The musical fairytale “Peter and the Wolf” is the best-known work by Russian composer Sergei Prokofiev. But without the Moscow theater director Natalya Sats, he would never have written it at all. It was her idea to commission a piece that would tell children an engaging story while introducing them to the sounds of different instruments. It premiered in 1936. The following year Sats was arrested by the Soviet secret police and taken to a labor camp. The circumstances of her arrest remain a mystery to this day.

Documentary, 60 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR

Gustav Mahler’s Symphony No. 2
Gustav Mahler’s Symphony No. 2, also known as the Resurrection Symphony, has exerted a powerful fascination since its premiere. On the one hand, because the work shattered all the temporal and spatial conventions of the time. More than 90 minutes long, it requires more than 150 musicians – orchestral, choral and solo voices. Another factor is that in this symphony, Mahler attempts to answer one of human-kind’s most pressing existential questions: What is the point of life? Already a famous conductor at the time of the premiere, Mahler achieved his breakthrough as a composer with this work.

Documentary, 60 min., 2018, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Spotlight On

Pieces of music that remain etched on the memory have been written throughout time. Even though the concept of “hits” did not yet exist in the Baroque, Classical or Romantic era when they were composed. And often, they are just as popular today – if not more popular. What is it about these works that has made them so famous? What makes them so fascinating? When, where and how were they created? Who composed them? What motivated the composer to write this particular piece? How difficult or easy are they to sing or play? Where were they usually played in the past, and where are you most likely to hear them today?

We shine a Spotlight On incomparable pieces of music. As well as playing excerpts of the music in question, we visit key locations in the creation process and provide an insight into the life and work of the composer.

Ludwig van Beethoven’s “Für Elise”
“Für Elise” by Ludwig van Beethoven is one of the best-known pieces of piano music ever written. A catchy tune attempted by most students of the instrument, it’s also one that virtuoso pianists like to perform as an encore. Beethoven started to work on the piece in 1808 but the score was not published until four decades after his death in 1827. It soon became very popular as more and more pianos were sold all over the world. A pop version by the French pianist Richard Clayderman became an international hit in the 1970s. The identity of the mysterious Elise named in the title has eluded scholars for two centuries.

Documentary, 60 min., 2017, HD; Arabic, English, Spanish; VoD, LR
Composers of Genius

In this series, we profile Composers of Genius from a range of eras – from the Baroque and Rococo periods via Classicism and Romanticism to the modern epoch. What kind of lives did they lead? How did they think? How did they approach their work and what makes their music so special? The programs include excerpts from their most beautiful works played by famous soloists and orchestras from all over the world.

684875 001
Baroque Star George Frideric Handel
George Frideric Handel is a giant among Baroque composers. The three years he spent in Italy as a young man were formative. Rome was the inspiration for ideas that would stay with him throughout his life and result in new compositions time and again. In Venice, he was so popular the locals called him “the dear Saxon”. He became a celebrity in London, where he was honored with a life-size statue during his lifetime. Despite his dizzying success, he never lost his sense of social responsibility.
Documentary, 60 min., 2016, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

684875 002
Mendelssohn the Classical Romantic
Felix Mendelssohn is one of the stand-out musicians of the Romantic period. As a young composer, conductor, pianist and organist, he toured numerous countries to great acclaim. His fan base was especially large and enthusiastic in Italy and England. But 50 years after his death, he fell out of favor. Critics described his music as pleasing and elegant, but lacking in depth. Mendelssohn wasn’t rediscovered until the first half of the 20th century. Today he is among the most popular of the European greats.
Documentary, 60 min., 2016, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

684875 003
Franz Liszt – The Pilgrimage Years
Franz Liszt was one of the most productive composers of the 19th century. He composed in many different styles and genres and was a pioneer of program music. He is considered one of the greatest pianists of all time. With his companion Marie d’Agoult – the mother of his three children – he set off on his first trip to Italy in 1837. It was there that he conceived many of his most famous compositions and cemented his reputation as a virtuoso performer.
Documentary, 60 min., 2016, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

684875 004
The Art of Chopin
Frédéric Chopin, as the French call him, or Fryderyk Chopin, as he is known in Poland, is one of the most influential and popular pianists and composers of all time. He was raised in Warsaw as the son of a Polish mother and a French father, but moved to Paris at the age of 21. He soon strayed from well-worn compositional paths to develop his own style. His romantic-poetic piano artistry influenced generations of composers. Although many of his works sound straightforward and accessible, they are very difficult to play and represent a huge challenge for any pianist.
Documentary, 60 min., 2016, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR
Ignaz Joseph Pleyel – Global Career as Composer and Piano Builder

At times, his music was as popular as Haydn’s. But that popularity didn’t last, and his work faded into obscurity during his lifetime. Ignaz Joseph Pleyel was a student of Haydn and revered his teacher, just as Mozart had done. The latter, in turn, had high praise for Pleyel’s string quartets. But Pleyel wasn’t just a successful composer, he also made a name for himself as a piano builder. In the 19th century, grand pianos made by Pleyel were regarded as the best in the world.

Documentary, 60 min., 2018, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Michael Nyman – Avant-garde Minimalism

British composer Michael Nyman is best known for his film music. His biggest success was with the soundtrack to the movie The Piano. Because he rejected contemporary atonal music, he gave up composing in the 1960s and turned to music criticism. An encounter with Steve Reich led him back to composition. US composer Reich is a pioneer of a musical style that Nyman was the first to call “minimalism”. Music written in this style consists of just a few melodies, rhythms and harmonies that are then perpetually repeated. Michael Nyman is undoubtedly the most important British exponent of minimal music.

Documentary, 60 min., 2018, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Richard Strauss was one of the leading exponents of the program music of the late 19th century and wrote some of the great operas of the 20th century. He expanded the scope and timbre palette of the orchestra. Women played a key role in his life and work, first and foremost his wife Pauline de Ahna, to whom he was married for more than 55 years. She gave up her career as an opera singer for him, and supported him throughout his life. She inspired Strauss to write some of his most beautiful and ethereal songs.

Documentary, 60 min., 2016, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, IFE, LR

Joseph Haydn is one of three key composers - alongside Mozart and Beethoven – who made up the First Viennese School of western classical music. He’s considered the father of the classical symphony and string quartet and an innovator in the composition of piano sonatas and piano trios. Although he was an employee of the wealthy Hungarian Esterházy family for most of his life, he was a master at pursuing his own interests. As a composer, he aimed to write music to please everyone – from his aristocratic patrons to “regular people”.

Documentary, 60 min., 2018, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, LR

Heinrich Schütz is regarded as the most important German composer of the Early Baroque. He wrote a huge volume of sacred music, some to Latin but most to German texts. This music was destined for church services at the court of the Elector of Saxony, whom Schütz served as court conductor. But as a sideline, he also composed music to entertain his employer and the royal household. Even during his lifetime, Schütz was revered as the “father of our modern music”.

Documentary, 60 min., 2018, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, LR

The Polish composer and conductor Krzysztof Penderecki is one of the most-performed composers of the modern age. He was always a thorn in the side of the authorities, someone who always refused to toe the line and wrote music that ruffled the feathers of those who happened to be in charge at the time. Penderecki grants no freedom at all to interpreters of his compositions. He has very precise ideas about how he wants his music to be played and makes no concessions on this point.

Documentary, 60 min., 2018, HD; English, Spanish; VoD, LR
Every summer DJs like Felix Jaehn and Alle Farben clock up more air miles than some airline pilots, conquering the international charts from their laptops. They produce hit songs, and have made German-style Deep House popular in Australia, Japan and the US.

We accompany Alle Farben, Felix Jaehn and Trance pioneer Paul van Dyk to some gigs. Jaehn performs at Summer Sound in Latvia, the biggest festival in the Baltic region. Frans Zimmer aka Alle Farben has to contend with torrential rain and a power outage at the Parookaville festival in Germany. And at a rave in San Francisco Paul van Dyk tells us why he keeps performing in the aftermath of a near-fatal accident during a concert.

They each attained fame and fortune in their twenties. What drives them on? The three DJs tell us about their different views on music, success and the music business. It’s a scene in which nobody becomes a star ‘just like that’. Their life is not all glamour and glory. It is also very tough; it takes hard work and self-discipline. It means late nights and long periods far from home, spending the summers traveling from festival to festival.
Musica Maestra: With Alondra de la Parra

It's still rare to see a woman conducting an orchestra. But female conductors do exist – and one of them is Alondra de la Parra. Although the Mexican maestra is not yet 40, she’s already conducted some of the best orchestras in the world. Since 2017, she’s been Music Director of the Queensland Symphony Orchestra in Australia. As well as the standard classical repertoire, she believes it is important to familiarize audiences with the work of South American composers. To this end, she’s even founded her own orchestra. Alondra de la Parra also doesn’t shy away from cooperation with pop and rock musicians. In the series Musica Maestra she introduces some of the artists she has performed with in the concert hall or on stage.

644897 001
Alondra de la Parra in Paris and Budapest
In Paris, Alondra de la Parra talks to members of Ensemble Recoveco. The Venezuelan-Colombian group combines Baroque and classical music with jazz and samba. In Budapest, she meets the violinist Barnabás Kelemen, who is renowned for his masterful technique.

644897 002
Alondra de la Parra in Zurich
After performing Mozart together in Zurich, Alondra de la Parra talks to the Canadian pianist Jan Lisiecki. He may be very young, but he is already regarded as one of the best pianists in the world.

644897 003
Alondra de la Parra in Monaco
In Monaco, Alondra de la Parra conducts works by the Mexican composer Silvestre Revueltas. She then rehearses with and talks to the Brazilian musicians Yamandú Costa (guitar) and Ernesto Fagundes (percussion).

644897 004
Alondra de la Parra in Bamberg and Stockholm
After a concert with the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra, Gautier Capuçon talks about the joy he feels playing the cello. In Stockholm, Patrick Raab and Johann Bridger introduce Alondra de la Parra to playing the marimba.

644897 005
Alondra de la Parra in Brisbane
The Australian composer and conductor Joe Chindamo has written a new piece for his daughter, the vocalist Olivia Chindamo. After 23 years on the stage, the Spanish ballerina Zenaida Yanovskaja prepares for her farewell performance. She’ll be accompanied by the Queensland Symphony Orchestra, led by Alondra de la Parra.

644897 006
Alondra de la Parra in Mexico
Alondra de la Parra meets two of her favorite musicians: in Mexico City she performs with Rodrigo de al Cadena – and with Natalia Lafourcade she gives a concert in Mérida’s iconic Coliseo Yucatán!

644897 007
Alondra de la Parra in Germany
Alondra de la Parra performs with the Bremen Kammerphilharmonie at Hamburg’s iconic Elbphilharmonie and with the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra at the “Kissinger Sommer” music festival.

644897 008
How to become a Musica Maestra
Alondra de la Parra shares some memories from the past. See her private archive with files and tapes she has kept for years!

644897 009
Alondra de la Parra in Australia
Have you ever seen Alondra de la Parra doing a ballet dance? Join her and the Queensland Symphony Orchestra in Brisbane!
Sarah’s Music – Contemporary Classical

Sarah’s Music – Contemporary Classical is a magazine show dedicated to the rich diversity of classical music. Presenter Sarah Willis, a world-class horn player with the Berlin Philharmonic, gets up close and personal with the stars of the classical music world.

What motivates a star conductor like Sir Simon Rattle to rehearse Carl Orff’s ‘Carmina Burana’ with a children’s choir? Or how does one of the world’s famous opera singers, Plácido Domingo, remember his cooperation with the celebrated conductor Herbert von Karajan?

In each edition Sarah Willis will present European concert highlights, showcase top events and welcome a star guest. The British host was born in the US but grew up in Tokyo, Boston and Moscow. Sarah’s Music – Contemporary Classical gives audiences around the globe a peek behind the scenes of current productions.

644844
Magazine, 80 x 12 min., 2015–2018, HD; English, German
10 x 12 min., Spanish
WW, VoD, M, IFE

SAMPLE EPISODES

644844 002
Sarah Willis meets top Venezuelan conductor Gustavo Dudamel and they discuss the magic of open-air concerts. And she takes part in a very special event: Once a year, the Berliner Philharmoniker plays in front of 20,000 spectators at the Waldbühne, an open-air amphitheater in the German capital’s Olympic Stadium complex.

644844 003
Sarah Willis meets one of the world’s most famous opera singers, Spanish tenor Plácido Domingo. Sarah talks to Plácido Domingo about the world’s major music festivals and why performers are always keen to perform in such a context. She also visits the Salzburg Festival, which has attracted hundreds of thousands of music fans from around the world during July and August since its inception in 1920.

644844 008
What precisely is a double reed, and why are woodwind players always tinkering with their instruments? To get answers to these questions and others, Sarah Willis meets the “Double Reed Club” – the oboists, bassoonists and cor anglais players from the Berlin Philharmonic.

644844 011
All the world’s best musicians want to play at New York’s Carnegie Hall. What is it about the famous concert hall that makes it so special? Sarah Willis explores the reasons for the venue’s mythical status and meets the Norwegian pianist Leif Ove Andsnes.

644844 015
At the Max Planck Institute in Göttingen, Sarah Willis meets scientists who are analyzing musicians’ movements with the help of magnetic resonance tomography and motion capture technology. She even allows herself to be used as a guinea pig.

644844 016
Håkan Hardenberger from Sweden is widely considered to be the greatest living trumpet soloist. Sarah Willis meets him at a concert with the Berlin Philharmonic conducted by Andris Nelsons.
Sarah spends the day backstage at the famous Theater des Westens in Berlin, as it puts on Chicago The Musical. She meets the cast and musicians and finds out how the musical theater prepares to perform the Broadway classic.

Sarah is in Vienna to discover the secrets of the Viennese Waltz. Dance instructor Thomas Schäfer-Elmayer sweeps her off her feet, and live waltzes are provided by the ensemble The Philharmonics.

The famous Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra of Venezuela is on tour in Berlin. Sarah holds a Horn Hangout with the horn section live online, answers questions from all over the world and attends the orchestra’s concert in the Philharmonie.

Sarah meets the great Russian pianist Daniil Trifonov. She finds out how he chooses a piano for important concerts and is thrilled to hear him live for the first time.

From New York to Japan to Australia – every place Sarah Willis visits with her horn becomes the subject of an episode of Sarah’s Music. See some of her favorite locations during the making of the program so far.

Renowned tenor Ian Bostridge and pianist Julius Drake perform “Winterreise” in Berlin. The two British musicians have specialized in the Lieder genre for many years now, and Ian Bostridge has written a book about Schubert’s glorious song cycle.

Daniel Hope – violinist, author, broadcaster, musical activist and festival director – talks to Sarah Willis during a festival at the Konzerthaus Berlin celebrating the life and work of his mentor, Yehudi Menuhin.

Sarah Willis meets the Austrian star percussionist Martin Grubinger at the 2015 Eurovision Song Contest in Vienna. What does it feel like to perform for 200 million television viewers worldwide?

Once a year, the Berlin Radio Choir and conductor Simon Halsey stage a sing-along concert at the Philharmonie hall. The concerts are always a huge hit, involving 1,300 singers from all over the world. Sarah Willis is among them.

Classical music is intensive training for the brain. The neurologist Eckart Altenmüller, who is professor at the Institute of Music Physiology and Musicians’ Medicine at Hanover University of Music, Drama and Media, explains why.

Sarah Willis travels to the Japanese city of Sapporo for the Pacific Music Festival. This international festival of classical music was founded by the legendary conductor Leonard Bernstein. Every year world-renowned artists from all corners of the globe take part.

Sarah Willis talks to the cellist Sol Gabetta and the violinist Daishin Kashimoto about chamber music and its very special charms. And we hear excerpts from the concerts performed by the two at the Beethoven Festival in Bonn.
Sarah spent a day at the inspiring Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, California, where every summer, the halls and the beach are filled with music played by talented young musicians from all over the world.

Sarah Willis meets John Wilson and his orchestra at the Music Festival Berlin. The musicians play hits from American film musicals of the 1930s, ‘40s and ‘50s. Wilson has reconstructed the lost orchestrations of many classic shows.

Katia and Marielle Labèque, seven breakdancers, an electric guitarist and a percussionist perform together at the Beethovenfest in Bonn Star Cross’d Lovers by David Chalmin – a modern version of Romeo and Juliet.

Viewers of Sarah’s Music have been sending Sarah Willis samples of their favorite Christmas music. She presents a selection of works from around the world – as well as her own favorites.

Zohra, the Afghan Women’s Orchestra, plays in Berlin for the first time. Sarah Willis meets these brave and inspiring young musicians and speaks to the two female conductors about fighting for the right to play music.

Sarah Willis meets violinist Lisa Batashvili as she prepares for her first performance in the new Pierre Boulez Saal in Berlin. Renowned acoustician Yasuhisa Toyota reveals how he creates excellent acoustics in a concert hall.

Sarah Willis savors the Sound Unbound Festival with all kinds of exciting music at the Barbican in London. The London Symphony Orchestra performs and Sarah even leads her own horn flashmob!

Germany’s capital Berlin is full of music and many episodes of Sarah’s Music have been filmed here. Sarah Willis shares some of her favorite Berlin episodes so far.

Adalberto Álvarez is known as El Caballero del Son – the Gentleman of ‘Son’. He talks to Sarah Willis about Cuban Son, the traditional Cuban dance music of which he is a master, at his home in Havana.

Join Sarah Willis for some of the highlights from the opening weekend of the 2017 Beethovenfest in Bonn featuring, of course, Bonn’s most famous resident, Ludwig van Beethoven, who can be found simply everywhere!

The Danish String Quartet delights the audience and Sarah Willis at the Klassiske Dage festival in Holstebro, Denmark, with their eclectic mixture of music from classical to folk.

From Lucerne to Sapporo: Sarah Willis takes you to some of her favorite classical music festivals and meets some of the great musicians who are performing there!
Schumann at Pier2

The German Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra Bremen and its conductor Paavo Järvi dust off the symphonies of Robert Schumann and present them in a new light. They offer a refreshing take on the work of one of the greatest composers of the Romantic era.

“After performing all of Schumann’s symphonies you get a sense that what you learned about him at school was simply wrong. Robert Schumann’s symphonic music is amazing. If you’re brave enough to look beyond tradition and focus solely on the music, you’ll see just how impressive it is.” The project Schumann at Pier2 consists of two elements: a concert film and a recording of Schumann’s four symphonies.

The concert film Schumann at Pier2 offers a new and unconventional encounter with Schumann’s symphonic oeuvre. The film stars the US-Estonian conductor Paavo Järvi and the German Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra Bremen. The setting is Pier2, a former shipyard in Bremen harbor. Usually a venue for rock and pop concerts, on this occasion it hosts performances of Schumann’s symphonies for a young audience.

The film observes the orchestra during rehearsals and presents elaborately recorded performances. Paavo Järvi explains key sections of the symphonies and talks about Schumann’s life. Studio-takes show members of the orchestra playing selected passages from the symphonies and talking about what makes them so special.

Schumann at Pier2 combines these various filmic elements – concerts, rehearsals and studio recordings – into an entertaining, informative and fascinating musical experience.

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Schumann at Pier2 – Concert film with Paavo Järvi and the German Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra Bremen
Documentary, 02 x 45 min., 2013, HD; English, German, Spanish; VoD, LR

664800 001
Symphony No. 1 in B flat major, Op. 38, “Spring Symphony”
Live Music, 01 x 35 min., 2013, HD; VoD, LR

664800 002
Symphony No. 2 in C major, Op. 61
Live Music, 01 x 41 min., 2013, HD; LR

664800 003
Symphony No. 3 in E flat major, Op. 97, “Rhenish Symphony”
Live Music, 01 x 36 min., 2013, HD; LR

664800 004
Symphony No. 4 in D minor, Op. 120
Live Music, 01 x 34 min., 2013, HD; VoD, LR
The Christmas Oratorio is probably the most popular spiritual work by Johann Sebastian Bach. The composition for choir, orchestra and vocal soloists illustrates the Biblical Christmas story and was written at a time when Bach was employed as cantor at the famous St. Thomas Church in Leipzig. It is comprised of several parts originally intended for church services on Sundays and religious holidays between Christmas and Epiphany. It was first performed in sections in the winter of 1734/35 under Bach’s baton. Soon afterwards, the composer merged the six highly uniform parts to create the Christmas Oratorio. However, owing to its considerable length of around two-and-a-half hours, it was rarely performed in its entirety.

DW Transtel presents Bach’s Christmas Oratorio, performed by the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra in Amsterdam, one of the world’s best orchestras, in an abridged version of 2 x 50 minutes. This version comprises four of the six parts which perfectly reflect the spirit and the mood of the oratorio.

The entire Christmas Oratorio is borne by the joy at the birth of Christ, which finds its expression in celebratory choruses and dynamic orchestral passages, interspersed with hymns and emotional arias performed by the vocal soloists. All the while, melancholic musical allusions infuse the fundamentally joyful tone of the work with the knowledge of the later death of the Savior on the Cross – all masterfully interconnected by Bach in a manner that lends his music a timeless character.

### Christmas Oratorio, Parts I-II
The Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra and Cappella Amsterdam conducted by Jan Willem de Vriend. Soloists: Judith van Wanroij (Soprano), Elisabeth Kulman (Alto), Fabio Trümpy (Tenor), Yorck Felix Speer (Bass). A performance at the Koninklijk Concertgebouw, Amsterdam.
Live Music, 53 min., 2019, HD; VoD, IFE, LR

### Christmas Oratorio, Parts V-VI
The Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra and the Nederlands Kamerkoor conducted by Trevor Pinnock. Soloists: Marlis Petersen (Soprano), Ursula Ettinger (Mezzosoprano), Daniel Behle (Tenor), Michael Nagy (Bass). A performance at the Koninklijk Concertgebouw, Amsterdam.
Live Music, 48 min., 2019, HD; VoD, IFE, LR