

MERGUEZ & OLIVE | FICHE TECHNIQUE

Titre : Merguez & Olive

Titre international : Merguez & Olive

Genre : documentaire

Durée : 19'50

Support : H.264, Appel Prores 422, DCP (à venir)

Langue originale : français

Versions :

- VO français
- VO sous-titrée anglais

Réalisation : Hugo Massa

Avec : Julian Arredi & Olivier Zylka

Image : Hugo Massa

Montage : Hugo Massa

Musique originale : Florent Wattelier

Consultant montage : Romain Baujard

Mixage : TBD

Étalonnage : Frédéric Geffroy

Pilote drone : Théo Mistaudy

DIRECTOR'S CONTACT

Hugo Massa

Né le 26 février 1989 à Bourg-en-Bresse

Nationalité française

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SYNOPSIS COURT

English

Julian and Olivier, two seasonal wakeboard instructors in rural France, share a unique bond : their wicked mullets. When the European Mullet Championship comes to a nearby village, “Merguez” and “Olive”, as they’re known, go all-out to compete for the title of best mullet.

Français

Julian et Olivier forment un duo atypique depuis qu’ils ont choisi d’arborer la coupe mullet. Lorsqu’un festival célébrant l’esprit décalé de cette coiffure rétro débarque à quelques heures de la base de loisirs où ils travaillent, les deux saisonniers redoublent d’efforts pour tenter de remporter le titre du plus beau mullet d’Europe.

SYNOPSIS LONG

English

After 2 years letting their hair grow out, mullet enthusiasts Julian and Olivier, both seasonal workers at a cable wakeboard park, prepare for the European Mullet Championship. We follow them for 3 days leading up to the event while they finish the summer season, refresh their haircuts and perfect their ‘characters’. Though neither of them will ultimately win the title of best mullet, the two friends come away from the experience feeling accomplished, having completed a life ‘project’ together.

Français

Après deux ans d’attente, Julian et Olivier, deux trentenaires saisonniers sur un parc de wakeboard en Dordogne, se préparent à concourir au Championnat européen de la coupe mullet. Alors que la saison estivale touche à sa fin, nous suivons les deux amis au cours des derniers préparatifs, alors qu’ils rafraîchissent leurs coupes et perfectionnent les "personnages" qu’ils comptent présenter. Bien qu’au final aucun d’entre eux ne remportera le titre de plus beau mullet d’Europe, “Merguez” et “Olive” reviendront de cette expérience satisfaits d’avoir accompli ce “projet” ensemble.

DIRECTOR’S STATEMENT

Julian is one of those childhood friends with whom I have always kept in touch even though our lives have taken different paths. When I discovered his new preoccupation — that is, growing a mullet — and the hilarious duo he had formed with his best friend Olivier, I knew their story should be presented in film. Beyond the mullet competition, I was amazed by their charisma,

touched by the depth of their friendship, and challenged by the carefree mindset that they advocate. Also of interest to me was their choice to continue living off seasonal work into their mid-thirties, an age where a lot of people settle to a more conventional lifestyle. I believe their mindset has the potential to speak to an entire generation, which increasingly values freedom and the pursuit of immediate happiness over a stable career path. The fact that this whole adventure occurred in the middle of the Covid-19 pandemic is certainly not a coincidence. For me, it was an opportunity to make a light-hearted, if not funny, non-fiction film, in the hope it would offer the public a moment of joy in a difficult time.

DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Hugo Massa is a French non-fiction filmmaker based in Paris. He graduated in Documentary Cinema from the New School in 2014. His thesis film *Hang Up*, about the decline of the 'payphone era,' was part of the official selection of DOC NYC the same year. He follows a DIY vision of filmmaking where going out in the field often prevails over desk research. His dedication to non-fiction filmmaking is rooted in the conviction that social reality goes far beyond common representations, and that certain characters and stories can be stranger than fiction. *Merguez & Olive* is the second personal film that fully adheres to this vision.

DIRECTOR'S FILMOGRAPHY

As filmmaker:

2022 - *Merguez & Olive*, 21 min, self-produced

2015 - *Barzakh*, 4 min, self-produced, as part of *Youmein*, a 48h creative festival in Tangier

2015 - *The Bridge #6*, 20 min, self-produced

2014 - *Ritmos Negros del Perú: Al Son de la Madera*, 60 min, co-directed with Sonia Barousse and Florent Wattelier, self-produced.

2014 - *Hang Up*, 14 min, thesis film, Graduate Certificate in Documentary Studies - The New School (New York City)

As DOP:

2022 - *Il Piccolo Golem*, Federica Quaini, 21 min, produced by Fondazione Aamod, supported by Premio Zavattini (Italy), official selection of Torino Film Festival 2022

As editor:

2017 - *With Rugs Unfurled*, by George Bajalia, 22 min, with the support of

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