

A Cinema Guild Release



Leviathan

A film by Lucien Castaing-Taylor and Véréna Paravel

87 minutes / DCP / 1.85:1 / Dolby 5.1 / USA/France/UK / Not Rated
In English

Stills available at: www.cinemaguild.com/downloads

Booking Contact:
Graham Swindoll
gswindoll@cinemaguild.com

The Cinema Guild, Inc.
115 West 30th Street, Suite 800
New York, NY 10001-4061
Tel: (212) 685-6242, Fax: (212) 685-4717
www.cinemaguild.com

Synopsis

A groundbreaking, immersive portrait of the contemporary commercial fishing industry.

Filmed off the coast of New Bedford, Massachusetts – at one time the whaling capital of the world as well as Melville’s inspiration for ‘Moby Dick’; it is today the country’s largest fishing port with over 500 ships sailing from its harbor every month.

Leviathan follows one such vessel, a hulking groundfish trawler, into the surrounding murky black waters on a weeks-long fishing expedition. But instead of romanticizing the labor or partaking in the longstanding tradition of turning fisherfolk into images, filmmakers Lucien Castiang-Taylor (*Sweetgrass*) and Verena Paravel (*Foreign Parts*) present a vivid, almost-kaleidoscopic representation of the work, the sea, the machinery and the players, both human and marine.

Employing an arsenal of cameras that passed freely from film crew to ship crew; that swoop from below sea level to astonishing bird’s-eye views, the film that emerges is unlike anything that has been seen before. Entirely dialogue-free, but mesmerizing and gripping throughout, it is a cosmic portrait of one of mankind’s oldest endeavors.

Awards and Nominations

Sevilla International Film Festival - Non-Fiction Eurodoc Award

Belfort International Film Festival - Grand Jury Award

Belfort International Film Festival - one + one Award

Belfort International Film Festival - Documentaire sur grand écran Award

CPH:DOX - new:vision award

RIDM Montreal - Best Cinematography and Best Sound in an International Feature

Locarno International Film Festival - fipresci jury award

Milan International Film Festival - la giuria giovani

Milan International Film Festival - giuria audiodoc

Viennale - Standard Audience Award

2012 L.A. Film Critics Circle - Douglas Edwards Independent/Experimental Award

New York Film Festival – Official Selection

Locarno International Film Festival – World Premiere

About the Filmmakers

Véréna Paravel and Lucien Castaing-Taylor are filmmakers, artists, and anthropologists, who work at the Sensory Ethnography Lab at Harvard University. Their work is in the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art (NY), and the British Museum, and has been screened at the AFI, BAFICI, Berlin, CPH:DOX, Locarno, New York, Toronto, and Viennale film festivals, and exhibited at London's Institute of Contemporary Arts, the Centre Pompidou, the Berlin Kunsthalle, Marian Goodman Gallery, the X-Initiative, and elsewhere. Paravel's previous films include *Foreign Parts* (2010, with J.P. Sniadecki) *Interface* series (2009-10) and *7 Queens* (2008); and Castaing-Taylor's *Hell Roaring Creek* (2010), *The High Trail* (2010), *Sweetgrass* (2009, with Ilisa Barbash), *In and Out of Africa* (2001, with Barbash), and *Made In USA* (1990, with Barbash).

Credits

With

Captain Brian Jannelle
Adrian Guillette
Arthur Smith
Asterias Vulgaris
Callinectes Sapidus
Christopher Swampstead
Cleona Celata
Clyde Lee
Declan Conneely
Fulmarus Glacialis
F.V. Athena
Gadus Morhua
Hippoglossus Hippoglossus
Homarus Americanus
Johnny Gatcombe
Larus Marinus
Larus Argentatus Smithsonianus
Luna
Mare
Melanogrammus Aeglefinus
Melanogrammus Albidus
Morone Sazatilis
Morus Bassanus
Paralichthys Dentatus
Paul Benner
Placopecten Magellanicus
Pleuronectes Ferruginea
Pollachius Virens
Pseudopleuronectes Americanus
Puffinus Gravis
Robby Segnitz
Robert Blethen
Sebastes Fasciatus
Thomas D. Simpson

Directed, photographed, edited and produced by:

Lucien Castaing-Taylor & Véréna Paravel

Sound composition, edit and mix by:

Ernst Karel

Sound design and re-recording mix by:

Jacob Ribicoff

Colour Monkey:

Joe Gawler

Colour Monkey Wrench

Roman Hankewycz

Colour Monkey Manager

Zak Tucker

Thanks

Brian Janelle

Carlos “The Godfather” Rafael

Claire Denis

Clayton Mattos

Ernst Karel

Haden Guest

Ilisa Barbash

Vincent Lepinay

With Support From

Cinereach

Creative Capital

Film Study Center

John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation

Lef Moving Image Fund

McMillan-Stewart Foundation Produced In

Sensory Ethnography Lab

Arrête Ton Cinéma

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Sacred to the memory of

California
Hilda Garston
Josephine Marie
Marie. E O'hara
Miss Sonya
Nita. T
Northern Voyager
Sankaty Head
Wanderer
Whydah

and countless other vessels lost at sea
off the New Bedford coast