



Film investigates the visual form of storytelling in today's society.

“Whoever can not tell his story does not exist.” (Salman Rushdie) In his essay *THE STORYTELLER*, the philosopher *WALTER BENJAMIN* lamented the disappearance of the storytelling. Benjamin's essay from 1936 is the starting point for director *NATHANIEL KNOP*, to ask about today's forms of storytelling and thus about comprehension. He finds answers in the arts, architect or lets a walrus hunter talk, who immortalises his stories on the tusks of his prey. The film leads us on an exciting journey from Europe to the USA, from India to Russia. Nathaniel Knop portrays a philosophy of storytelling and provides a fascinating insight into a world full of hidden stories.

The selected protagonists are: architects Peter Eisenman and Nikolaus Hirsch, artists Özge Açikkol & Seçil Yersel, Simon Starling, Nikolay Polisski, fakir Lalu Baba, activist Ali Shamsheer, walrus hunter Boris Girgirovskyn.

**Germany, 2016, 2:39, color&B/W, 62 min**

**LANGUAGE:** English, German, Hindi, Turkish, Russian

**SUBTITLES:** English, French, Italian, German, Russian, Spanish (Versions with W.Benjamin's quotations in same languages are available)

**AVAILABLE:** DCP, Blue Ray, DVD, 2K Scope & HD-File

**CREDITS** DIRECTOR: Nathaniel Knop DOP: Peter Rippl, Nikita Khokhlov FILM SCORE: Ketevan Scheipner EDITING: Anatoli Skatchkov PRODUCTION: KINOBRIGADA, Frankfurt.

CO-PRODUCTION: Ethno Online, Moscow; Peter Rippl Filmproduktion, Frankfurt

**FESTIVAL OFFICIAL SELECTION:** Architecture & Design International Film Festival, New York, 2016 |

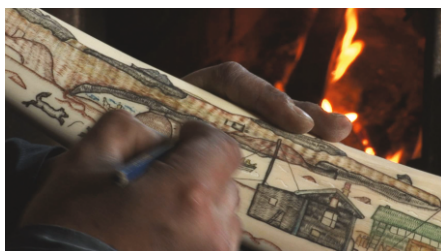
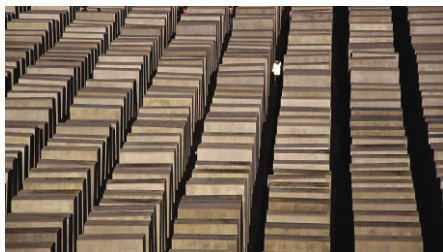
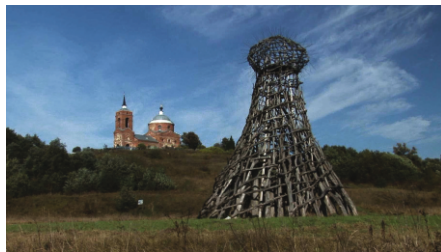
International Film Festival, Pune, India, 2016 | Lichter Filmfest Frankfurt International, 2017 |

Jewish Film Festival, Moscow, 2017 | Festival International du livre d'art et du film, Perpignan, 2017 |

Arquiteturas Film Festival, Lisboa, 2017 | Milano Design Film Festival, Milano, 2017 |

CINETEKTON Architecture Film Festival, Mexico, 2017 |

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS:** Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit MOCAD, 2017 | filosoficum Basel, 2017



## DIRECTOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Nathaniel Knop. Born 1968 in Czernowitz, the city that at some point was Austrian, Rumanian, Soviet and ended up being Ukrainian. Studied Psychiatry in Siberia, worked by A. Kaidanovsky in Moscow and K. Zanussi in Warsaw. Holder of the Nipkow – European Scholarships for Audiovisual Media Professionals, Berlin. Founder and Curator of the project space for Contemporary Art – Platfrom Sarai for 11 years. Worked with numerous channels as 3SAT and ARTE, museums like the Russian State Museum in Sankt-Petersburg or the MAK, Frankfurt. Now he is living with his 5 kids in Frankfurt/Main, reading books and, together with Peter Rippl, making films in collaboration with dancers, architects and fishermans.

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I would neither like to act as a critic nor provide an illustration to the idea of the world as a global spectacle machine controlled by rootless entrepreneurs and consumed by the melancholic consumer. Likewise, I have no intention of talking about the collapse of all conceivable acts of linguistic articulation.

I would like to retain the right to an affirmative optimism – an optimism for which I find the ground by Walter Benjamin.

Film shows that *behind every real storytelling there is a personal experience* that includes the experiences of others, which is experienced again and again and thus defines the practice of life.

Today's storyteller, be it an artist or an architect presents a possibility to share the experience without words.

OFFICIAL TRAILER: <https://vimeo.com/180414575>

WEBSITE: <http://thestoryteller-film.de/>

PHOTOS: <http://thestoryteller-film.de/download/d1>

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/TheStorytellerAfterWB>

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