

55 minutes / color / 2005



ICARUS FILMS

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Synopsis

Every year for the last fifty years, a professional jury of the World Press Photo Foundation has selected one photograph as winner of the "World Press Photo of the Year" competition. Some of these images have had such an impact on society that they have become symbols of their time—true historical icons.

LOOKING FOR AN ICON examines the process by which photos become icons, revealing that once a photo is published, social forces are at work beyond the photographer's control. The film focuses on four World Press Photo winners, including Eddie Adams's 1968 photo of the public execution of a Viet Cong prisoner, an anonymous photographer's last image of Salvador Allende during the 1973 coup, Charlie Cole's 1989 photo of a lone student confronting tanks in Tienanmen Square, and David Turnley's 1991 photo of a grieving soldier during the first Gulf War.

The film details the story behind each of those world-famous images, featuring interviews with the photographers, and showing additional images from the contact sheets. LOOKING FOR AN ICON also features interviews with other photographers, photo editors, critics, educators, historians and members of the World Press Photo jury.



"Much more than the story of four photographs...

It is also an exploration of the meaning and importance of photojournalism itself."

—CBC News

Filmography

HANS POOL



Name: Hans Pool

E-mail: hansfilm@xs4all.nl Birth: December 18th, 1962

Address: Grote Kerkstraat 15, 4101CB Culemborg

Telephone: 0345 - 524120

Education

1988-1992 Royal Academy, The Haque, Audiovisual Design (camera & direction)

1983-1987 Dutch Language and Literature, University of Amsterdam

1975-1982 Atheneum, Spinoza Lyceum, Amsterdam

Work (a selection)

At this moment, I'm working on a documentary series about the history of Dutch film (NPS) and a documentary about the mysterious disappearance of an American pornstar (Human).

2006 PIJN (Pain) documentary (BNN, 15 minutes)

The twenty year old kickboxing woman Caby was left when she was four by her father, the world champion. With her mother she searches the borders of pain perception, both mentally and physically.

2005 LOOKING FOR AN ICON documentary (NPS, 54 minutes)

About the lie of photographic icons.

2005 THE OFFICIAL TRIBUTE TO SENNA (EMI Music Netherlands, 52 minutes)

An international documentary about Formule 1 hero Ayrton Senna. He died in 1994, on the circuit of Imola. Broadcast in more than ten countries and more than 200,000 copies of the DVD have been sold worldwide.

2004 **DE GENCO'S** documentary (IKON, 3 X 50 minutes)

A family epos concerning a Turkish supermarket in the Netherlands.

2004 ALLEMAAL THEATER (All about theatre)

History of the Dutch theatre from 1945.

2003 **VECHTERSHART** (*Fighting Heart*) documentary (IKON, 50 minutes)

About a kickboxing coach and his two Moroccan pupils.

EINDELOOS VERLANGEN (Boundless Desire) documentary (RTL4, 2 x 50 minutes)

Documentary about entertainment entrepreneur Joop van den Ende during the making of his new musical 'Three musketeers.'

2001 MORGEN BEN IK DE BRUID (Tomorrow I will be the bride) documentary (Net5, 50 minutes)

Documentary about four brides, how they think about marriage and their expectations.

2001 MEKKA AAN ZEE 3 items (NMO, 3 x 10 minutes)

Ten directors about an Islamic subject in a personal manner. In this case the young Moroccan writer Said ell Hadji who took distance of the Koran, Allah and his father.

UIT PRINCIPE (A principle choice), documentary (EO, 50 minutes)

Biological farmer fights the decision of the government to vaccinate cows. During its fight suddenly hundreds of cows die due to the anti-virus of pharmacist Bayer.

2000 **DRIE WEKEN FEEST** (*Three weeks party*) documentary (1 hour and 15 minutes)

A portrait one of the poorest neighbourhoods of Rotterdam during the European championships.

1997 - 1998 **SINGLE LUCK** series 1997-98 (N.P.S., 4 x 25 minutes)

'Single Lucks' are lucky shots in the music industry. In this series, international stars are interviewed.

1997 GOEDE RAAD (Good counsel) Documentary series 1997 (AVRO, 6 x 40 minutes)

A series about the legal profession.

1993 - 1994 1993 - 1994 EEN NIEUWE HORIZON (A New Horizon) documentary 1993-94 (NCRV, 45 minutes)

Film about the hopeless existence of five young people, who get a new perspective by specific support by the government.

1993-94 **DE BRUILOFT** (*The Wedding*) Reportage series (R.T.L. 5.12 x 25 minutes)

Portraits of two people on the day of their wedding. The central question: why marry?

1992 POLDERWEG 106, examination film 1992

Documentary about the solidarity between two elderly brothers living on a remarkable farm trying to make ends meet.

Credits

Camera & Director: Hans Pool

Sound & Director: Maaik Krijgsman

Editors: Hans Pool & Maaik Krijgsman

Producer: Frank De Jonge

Creative Producer: Piet Erkelens

Executive Producer: Jeanmarc Van Sambeek

Production Managers: Petra Zoon, Pienke Dekkers

Researcher: Suzanne Wagter

Advisor: Mart Dominicus

Colour Grading: Ronald Van Dieren

Sound Mix: Hugo Dijkstal

Commissioning Editor RNTV: Aad Van Ierland

Commissioning Editor NPS: Cees Van Ede

The following photographers contributed to this film:

Eddie Adams, Pablo Bartholomew, Jean-Marc Bouju, Mustafa Bozdemir, Malcolm W. Browne, Larry Burrows, Charlie Cole, Arko Datta, Frank Fournier, Hocine, Nick Ut Cong Huynh, Dorothea Lange, Georges Merillon, James Nachtwey, Lucian Perkins, Erik Refner, Oliviero Toscani, David Turnley, Peter Turnley

