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| **Here We Are. Here We Go.: Swiss Documentaries on Adolescence**  **(July to August Programmes)**  **APPENDIX** |
| **Who Are We? / Wer sind wir?**  Director: Edgar Hagen  Millennium Docs Against Gravity Film Festival (Poland) 2020  Solothurn Film Festival 2020  IDFA International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam 2019  **A new experience of love**  Date & Time: 3/7 (Sat) 3pm\*  \*With online after-screening talk with the director. Conducted in English.  Switzerland | 2019 | 98 mins | HD | Colour | In German with English subtitles  Helena (19) and Jonas (11) are both severely handicapped and have high support needs. Ostracised for being different and having the difficulty of expressing their needs, and as they face challenges day to day, they also put their parents, families, schools and society to the test. However, the film shows that new social networks can be cultivated and it is evident that social cohesion is crucial for improving the experience and quality of life - not only for Helena and Jonas but also for everyone in their environment. The film breaks the wall that surrounds people with special needs, and shows how a common language and community can help us understand human nature and better ourselves, posing the question of who we are.  **Wake Up on Mars / Réveil sur Mars**  Director: Dea Gjinovci  Nominated for Best Documentary Feature, Tribeca Film Festival New York 2020  Nominated for International Dox Award, Dokufest International Documentary and Short Film Festival (Kosovo) 2020  Nominated for Best Documentary Feature, Hainan International Film Festival 2020  Visions du Réel, International Documentary Film Festival Nyon 2020  **Where are my sisters? Where are we?**  Date & Time: 4/7 (Sun) 3pm\*  \*With online after-screening talk with the director. Conducted in English.  Switzerland, France | 2020 | 74 mins | HD | Colour | In Albanian and Swedish with English subtitles  In Sweden, after a Kosovor family’s request for asylum has been rejected, two sisters of the family start to develop a mysterious malady, resignation syndrome, until they lie in a vegetative state. Their devoted parents work their best to keep the children alive, and try to rebuild a normal life far from their native Kosovo where they are victims of persecution due to their ethnicity. As the family’s future hangs in the balance of another pending asylum request, its youngest brother dreams of building a spaceship to escape the reality of his sisters’ illness. This film is a powerful and captivating metaphor for the contemporary refugee experience. Will the family stay in Sweden? Will the sisters wake up?  **Sapelo**  Director: Nick Brandestini  Best Feature Film, Visions du Réel, International Documentary Film Festival Nyon 2020  Best Documentary Feature, Ojai Film Festival 2020  Nominated for Best Documentary Feature, Nashville Film Festival 2020  **A distant past. A lost present.**  Date & Time: 29/8 (Sun) 8pm\*  \*With online after-screening talk with the director. Conducted in English.  Switzerland | 2020 | 92 mins | HD | Colour | In English with English subtitles  Two young brothers, JerMarkest (11) and Johnathan (10), are growing up on the picturesque and isolated barrier island of Sapelo. Accompanied by their adoptive 70-something year old mother, Cornelia, they experience the joy of exploring the island under her loving care.  Sapelo was once a destination for slave traders, and became a sanctuary for those freed after the American civil war. It is also the last remaining enclave of the Saltwater Geechee people, which are originally from West Africa. Cornelia works to preserve what remains of this unique community established by her ancestors. Reflecting on the complicated splendour of her youth, Cornelia strives to shepherd her sons through theirs. At the dawn of adolescence, the brothers inherit her hope, but begin to clash with each other and the wider world.  **Under the Skin / Sous la peau**  Director: Robin Harsch  Audience Award, International Festival of Audiovisual Programmes (Biarritz, France) 2020  Geneva International Film Festival 2020  International Leipzig Festival for Documentary and Animated Film 2019  **Gender is boundless**  Date & Time: 30/8 (Mon) 8pm\*  \*With after-screening talk. Conducted in English.  Switzerland | 2019 | 85 mins | HD | Colour | In French with English subtitles  Because Robin Harsch’s friend was starting an organisation for young people who were LGBTIQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, or questioning), he became curious and started filming an unfamiliar topic. With great sensitivity and openness, Harsh took two years to film three trans teenagers - Soän, Logan and Mixair/Effie Alexandra – along the road towards transition and the conquest of a desired identity. The film tackles delicate gender issues, and allow those directly affected by these matters to express their truths. Faced with the oppression of heteronormative society which thinks in generally sterile and binary terms, it takes these protagonists determination, strength and courage to be themselves. They “encourage us to hope and believe in a society where all of the finer nuances of humanity can be expressed and enjoyed without sterile and dangerous prejudices.” |