IN PRAISE of NOTHING

AN UNLIKELY FEELGOOD DOCUMENTARY Written and directed by BORIS MITIĆ Narrated by IGGY POP
Brainstormed and filmed by 62 CINEMATOGRAPHERS in 70 COUNTRIES Edited by BORIS MITIĆ
Music by PASCAL COMELADE, THE TIGER LILLIES Sound mix by BRUNO FARBIÈRE, IVAN UZELAC
Produced by BORIS MITIĆ, FABRIZIO POLPETTINI ©DRIBBLE PICTURES, ANTI-ABSURD, LA BÊTE 2017
WWW.NOTHING.EXPOSED
IN PRAISE OF NOTHING
(dir. Boris Mitic, 2017, Serbia, Croatia, France, 78’)

www.nothing.exposed
www.vimeo.com/ondemand/inpraiseofnothing
https://www.facebook.com/inpraiseofnothing/

- tagline: Iggy Pop narrates Nothing’s weekend on Earth

- synopsis: A satirical documentary parable about Nothing, in which Nothing, tired of being misunderstood, runs away from home and comes to address us for the first and the last time. Researched through 20,000 pages of the most eclectic bibliography ever used in a documentary film, shot over 8 years by 62 cinematographers in 70 countries; scored by cabaret grandmasters Pascal Comelade and the Tiger Lillies; narrated – in simple childlike rhymes – by Iggy Pop.


- broadcasters: Arte (France/Germany), RTS (Switzerland), SVT (Sweden), YLE (Finland), NPO/KRO-NCRV (Holland), TVC (Spain), HRT (Croatia)

- financiers: Film Center Serbia, Croatian Audiovisual Center, CNC Cosip, Procirep, IDFA Bertha Fund, Creative Europe MEDIA Program, Center for Contemporary Art Geneva, Faena Art

- original version: English (narrated by Iggy Pop)

- available subtitles: Albanian, Arabic, Armenian, Azeri, Bengali, Brazilian Portuguese, Bulgarian, Catalan, Chinese (simplified/traditional), Croatian, Dutch, English, Esperanto, French, Hindi, Hungarian, Indonesian, Italian, Korean, Latin, Latvian, Macedonian, Persian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovenian, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish, Ukrainian
- **poster, stills, director’s photo (print resolution, 300dpi):**

- **poster, stills, director’s photo (web resolution, 72dpi):**
  [http://dribblingpictures.com/us_{72dpi}.zip](http://dribblingpictures.com/nothing_{72dpi}.zip)

- **trailer:** [https://vimeo.com/32320226]{(https://vimeo.com/323202268)}
- **film excerpt:** [https://vimeo.com/323201912](https://vimeo.com/323201912)
- **making of teaser:** [https://vimeo.com/226649598/75d8bfcd1](https://vimeo.com/226649598/75d8bfcd1)

- **press kit:** [http://dribblingpictures.com/nothing-info.pdf](http://dribblingpictures.com/nothing-info.pdf)

- **a playlist of songs about Nothing:**
  [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLcAfUE_7tAocST9nRKP0ISvEGxOHN4whk](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLcAfUE_7tAocST9nRKP0ISvEGxOHN4whk)
“This is like something from the Renaissance or something.” – Iggy Pop

“Apothéosique!” – Pascal Comelade

“A torrential blues litany, tickling the limits of hope.” – CineLapsus

“Too wise to be poetic.” – Film Explorer

“Iggy Pop is the voice of Nothing in a film about everything. Confused? This is just the beginning of a massive cosmic comedy.” – CPH:DOX

“Turns out Zeitgeist has a voiceover of an aging ageless punk icon. How appropriate!” – Forbes

“Please be the voice in my car GPS system!” - Ailen Schnee Roc

“This palate cleanser from director Boris Mitic is never less than gorgeous.” - The Financial Times

“A sensationally strange slice of avant-garde pontificating.” - The Guardian

“Challenges the pieties of documentary’s presumptive sobriety.” - Sight & Sound

“This was the only real thing I saw today.” - Miss Romania

“A monumental abstraction!” - Radio Belgrade 3

“A Charlie Chekhov fuckyoumentary!” - Jacob Michelson-Shamelashivili

“Watching this film is like a mixture of feelings from before and after making love.” – Agron Domi

“Can I screen this film at my funeral, twice?” – Johan Kolinsky
Boris Mitic – director/writer/producer

Born in 1977 in southern Serbia.

Lived on a few continents, worked for a few years for the most prestigious global media, understood a few things and dedicated the rest of his life to creative parenting, creative football and creative documentaries: a Gypsy Mad Max recycling saga, a claustrophobic tragicomedy of the absurd, a satirical documentary fairy tale, a feelgood parable about Nothing.

150+ festivals (Locarno, IDFA, Edinburgh, Abu Dhabi FF, Mar del Plata FF, Jerusalem FF), 20 broadcasters (ARTE, SVT, YLE, VPRO, RAI, Al Jazeera), 18 awards (Sarajevo, Madrid, Rome, Mexico, Montevideo…), global lecturing track record (Edinburgh, Beirut, Doha, Kolkata, Copenhagen, Moscow, Geneva, Sofia, Sarajevo, Florence, Bergen, Shanghai, London, Taipei)

Filmography:

Pretty Dyana (2003)
Unmik Titanik (2004)
In Praise of Nothing (2017)

www.dribblingpictures.com | www.dribblingpictures.com/academia
boris@dribblingpictures.com | mob/viber/w’app +385 91 1255 845 | mob +381 63 7715 241
DIRECTOR’S NOTE

Contemporary documentaries have become trapped in the web of good intentions, reduced to either hyperbolized and often manipulated life bites, or to patronizing moralization in the name of some higher or ideal values that don’t really exist, or at least not in sustainable quantities.

There are no appropriate discourses either, be they conservative, liberal, catastrophic or idealistic, which could provide much needed epistemological comfort. Hence this quest into Nothing, majestic and scary, imminent and distant, everybody’s orphan.

Nothing as a permanent possibility of new beginnings, Nothing as post-ideological deflation, Nothing as a cinematic response to the everything and the anything that we are so confusingly running after.

I personally don’t feel any emptiness in life, quite the contrary. I remember my best football moves way back to the early Eighties; I’ve paid due respect to my parents, to my country, to most friends and to my personal religion; I have adorable kids, a resilient body and a playful mind.

Yet, it is the very conscience of Nothingness that makes our lives even more fulfilled, and provides the most honest ground for assessing our attitudes and achievements, both personal and professional – and one really doesn’t need to be a guru, a physicist or a philosopher to get that.

The goal of this film is to make each viewer experience this positive potential of Nothing in his or her own individual way, through pure cinematic pleasure. If this little smile on the corner of your mouth remains until the end of the screening, the mission will be more than accomplished.

I would be most happy to develop this film for another 30 years and complete it at the fine age of 68, but I still don’t think that the overall idea would change.

What I wanted is to do is to make a visual equivalent to the best satirical book ever, Erasmus’s 1513 classic “In Praise of Folly”, in which Folly goes around the world convincing people that it is to smarter to be mad than to be smart. I want to do the same, 500 years later, in these new Dark Ages, with Nothing in the main role.
COMPANY PROFILE

“In Praise of Nothing” is produced by Dribbling Pictures, a 13-year-old Belgrade-based production company founded by Boris Mitić and Mila Turajlić and devoted exclusively to creative documentaries and documentary academia.

All our previous productions have premiered at A-class festivals, toured over 300 others, won 35 awards and were broadcasted on 25 TV stations. Most recently, “In Praise of Nothing” opened in Locarno, while “The Other Side of Everything” launched at Toronto IFF.

TV partners include ARTE, HBO Europe, Sky Arts, ZDF, MDR, WDR, BR, SVT, YLE, DK, Canal+ Poland, RTS-SSR, ERR, TVP, TV3, CYBC, RTV Slovenia, HRT, RTRS, B92, RTS, IBA, Yes Docu, Rossia Kultura, Al Jazeera and Eurochannel, with major funding received from Eurimages, Creative Europe, CNC Cinema du monde, CNC Cosip, Doha Film Institute, IDFA Bertha Fund, Geneva Center for Contemporary Art, the Croatian Audiovisual Center and Film Center Serbia.

We also guest lecture globally, as per www.dribblingpictures.com/academia