

THE ORIGINS : FRAGMENTS OF THE HUNT

Film by Mikko Ijäs, Ph.D Doctor of Arts, Aalto University, Finland
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The Origins presents a new argument that human imagination and art was evolved due to ancient art of persistence hunting (running and tracking down animals). The film is loosely based on the research by Harvard scholar and media artist Mikko Ijäs. His research deals with the early connection between persistence hunting, trance rituals, and visual arts among the early hunter-gatherer societies. The principal cinematography of this film was executed among the Ju/'hoansi at the Nyae Nyae Conservancy in the Kalahari desert in Namibia and among the Ráramuri of the Mexican Sierra Madre. The Ju/'hoansi are still trying to maintain their ancient hunting and gathering traditions in the rapidly changing environment of the Kalahari. They still hunt with their traditional ways and forage wild foods from the bush, but they've recently began to supplement their diet with other products such as maize flour, tea and sugar. They have also recently acquired some sheep and chickens, but having cattle is still restricted on the Nyae Nyae Conservancy.

The movie tells about the origins of human culture and the struggles of the last indigenous people in the Kalahari and in the Mexican Sierra Madre with minimal explanatory notes telling the story.

The movie features rock-art from various locations including Brandberg, Erongo, Wüstenquell and Twyfelfontein in Namibia, some glimpses of rock paintings and engravings in Oregon in USA, painted engravings of Alta Museum in Norway, few shots in Dordogne area in France, and one panel in Cetral Finland known as the Saraakallio.

The music for the film was composed by Maija Kaunismaa and it was performed together in collaboration with Vox Aurea youth choir from Jyväskylä, Finland, saxophonist Jukka Perko, singer and igil player Imre Peemot and Rabbe Sandström.

Written, directed, filmed and edited by Mikko Ijäs

Composed by Maija Kaunismaa

Produced by Maija Kaunismaa and Mikko Ijäs

Music performed by Vox Aurea choir with Imre Peemot, Jukka Perko and Rabbe Sandström.

Music produced by Aki Sihvonen and Maija Kaunismaa.

Full HD, 16:9, 5.1 Stereo,

Running time: 58:38 min

General info:

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