

STRUCTURES OF NATURE
directed by Martin Gerigk

Country: GERMANY

Year of production: 2017

Genre: Documentary/Experimental

SYNOPSIS

There is no denying the sensations of intrigue and enchantment that will veil you when first experiencing the very surprising experimental documentary **“Structures of Nature”** directed by **Martin Gerigk**.

This sensorial Odysee of a short, sets its goal to explain simple structure of nature such as the fundamental principles of the swarms, the creation of chemical reactions, their vibrant reception in our sociology and psychology as well as some surprising mathematical formulas, all through the magnificent psycho-sensuous experience of the audio-visual. There is a true sense throughout the whole film that structure and meaning are not really what is trying to be achieved here. There is a rather more profound cosmological approach at aim. One that favours the expression of the experience in a decomposed and re-assembled type of process which ultimately sets itself to create a journey of perception where all the senses are forced to activate themselves and explore the material and the ideas with the fast pace and complexity of synaesthesia.

IDEA

The whole concept behind **“Structures of Nature”** is one that finds its roots in the peculiar and private, in the characteristic and exclusive way with which nature and life can be explored and perceived by the human being through its individuality. It feels as you are encountering someone’s raw humanity with its cognitive network of thoughts and ideas intertwined with the direct implication of the emotional and lyrical. This is by all means something particular and specific and it becomes remarkably haunting to experience this universality of the individual discovered through the specificity of the intimate.

Rating: **EXCELLENT**

SCRIPT

As this documentary unfolds itself in its exploration of the natural along with our involvement as human beings in this cosmic formula, the script emerges more as a spontaneous ethnological trace of thought rather than a conventional script. The organic way with which it combines the rational, the emotional and the scientific presents itself as a broken structure unfolded in a staccato moderato rhythm, contouring a narrative that aims for spontaneity and self integration rather than for the common sense and structural meaning.

Rating: **VERY GOOD**

CINEMATOGRAPHY & EDITING

The visual delight emerging from the highly accomplished cinematography displayed in “**Structure of Nature**” will surely mesmerise anyone embarking in this bold expedition of the sensorial. Its artistry in image composition will never cease to engage and more importantly surprise and hypnotise with the boldness and sharpness with which it chooses to portray the abstract, the sensitive and the cerebral. The world of the microscopic becomes accessible and ready to lure one into its simple cleansing principles.

The exquisite balance achieved by the very clever and articulate editing manages to brilliantly create this organic biological effect and it creates a little piece of cinematography that not only presents the natural but becomes the natural: surprising, unpredictable but completely connected and tuned to the limitless.

Rating: **EXCELLENT**

ACTING

N/A

Rating: unratable

DIALOGUE

The simplicity with which the narrators express this assortment of scientific information well embroiled in a web of thought, ideas, concepts and impressions sets the mood for the entire short. Their detachment becomes powerful and heavy, their presence undeniable, almost as that of the creator observing the electrifying evolution of its own creation.

Rating: **VERY GOOD**

SETS

N/A

Rating: unratable

SOUND

You know something is spot on when you don't even notice it. This is indeed the case of the audio side for **Structures of Nature**. The tunes are so well chosen, blended and fitted in that it makes it impossible to speak of the visual and the sound as two separate entities, they live symbiotically and co-exist in a perfectly harmonised relationship. The accuracy with which the acoustic is treated in this short guarantees a full enhancement of the visual and vice versa.

Rating: **EXCELLENT**

DIRECTING & DIRECTOR'S VISION

By this point, the distinctive and wondrous vision of director **Martin Gerigk** is evident. There is a musicality and rhythm in the way he makes us savour the visual and there is colour and depth in its understanding of the sound. His appetite for comprehension and discovery prove his instincts unstoppable. What is however more wonderful is that he manages to translate his intuition into beautiful and daring cinematography.

Rating: **EXCELLENT**

ARRAY OF MEANINGS

“Structures of nature” has proven itself to truly be something special, something so unique it could translate into a challenge for some of the viewers, as the choice of four narrators, most of the times overlapping gets combined with the demanding, yet fully owed embracement of a lack of classical narrative structure. This inquisitive mix of information and auditive sagacity is ultimately enhanced by the visual delight of precious cinematography. And whilst it does target a niche audience, one that has already an appetite for the refined and profound, it still displays a mesmerising simplicity, something that draws and incites at an inexplicable level.

Rating: **EXCELLENT**

FINAL CONCLUSIONS

The true power of this short however lies in the unconventional. It challenges the everything and the nothing and its bravery with which it explores the inexplicable is what grants it power and vision. The audacity with which it points the camera and explores nature at a microscopic level, only to embrace all that is learned through a poetical consciousness of the human essence, is equally provocative and intoxicating.

BELIFF's VERDICT:

‘A mesmerizing sensorial symphony of the microscopic visual and soul vibrating acoustic.’

Reviewed by **Ioana Dorofte**


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