

VISUALANTICS

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FILM

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VISUALANTICS presents DREAM BOX a film by JEROEN VAN DER STOOP supported by the FLANDERS REGIONAL FUND  
Executive producers: MARIE VAN HONINGBLAUW and SWAN VAN HESDOORN visual design: BORIS DUBROVSKY writer: JEROEN VAN DER STOOP produced by: STEVEN DHOEDT  
WWW.DREAMBOXMOVIE.COM

# DREAM BOX

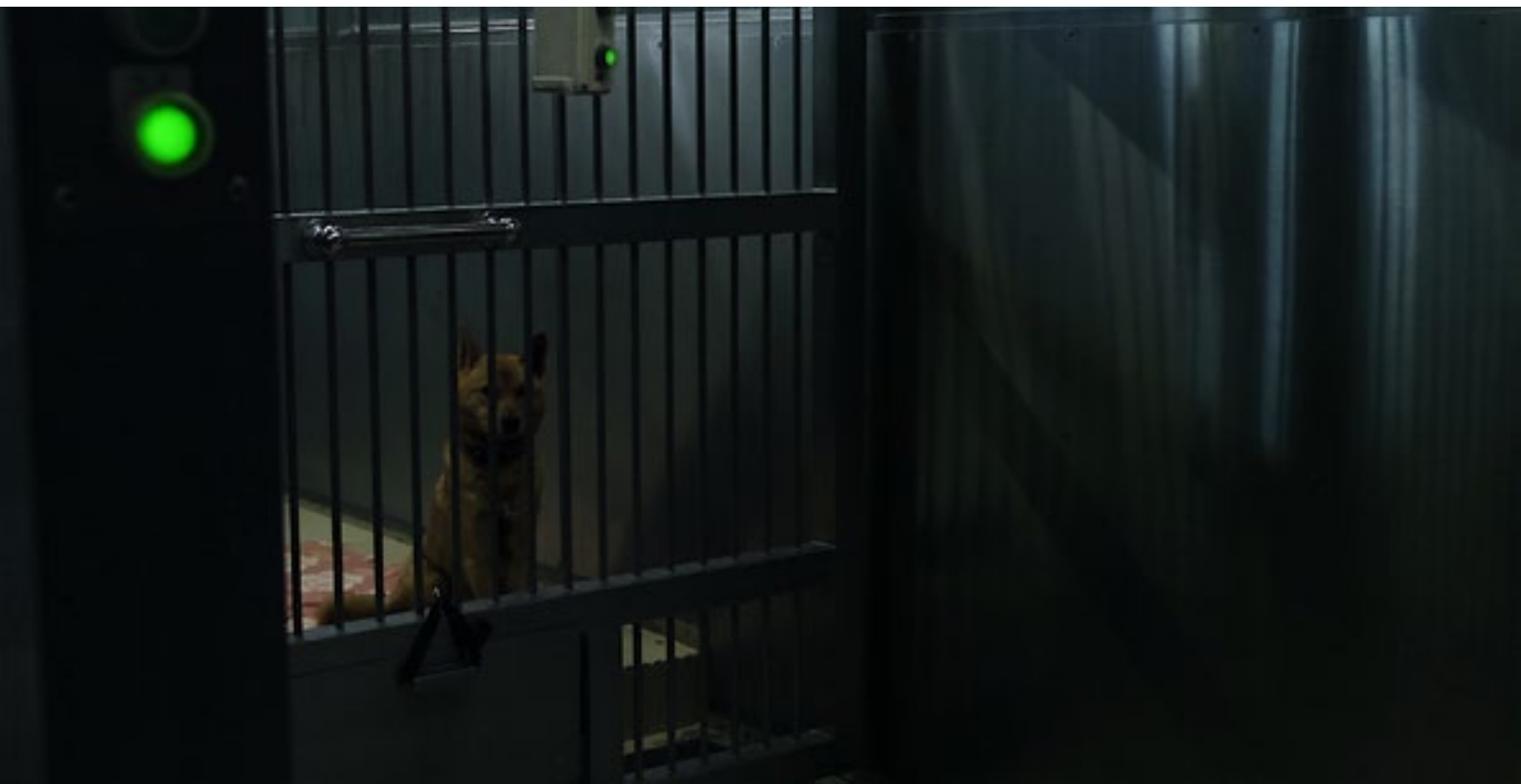
ドリームボックス





**“The question is not,  
“Can they reason?”  
nor,  
“Can they talk?”  
but,  
“Can they suffer?”**

*- Jeremy Bentham on animal rights in 1789 -*



A close-up, high-contrast photograph of a cat's face, focusing on its eyes and whiskers. The lighting is dramatic, with deep shadows and bright highlights, giving it a mysterious and intense appearance.

# THE STORY

## SHORT SYNOPSIS

At a building in the midst of mysterious Japanese woods, a delivery of cats and dogs takes place. Some of them just seem to be killing time, others enter the Dream Box.

## LONG SYNOPSIS

On Shikoku Island, the smallest and least populous of the four main islands of Japan, lies an unspecified generic building in the midst of mysterious woods.

While the remains of morning fog hanging over the mountain forests are slowly clearing, a couple of puppies sunbathing outside the building are startled by the sudden arrival of a small truck. A few unidentified men offload the vehicle. They seem to be pretty seasoned in handling the various cages of which the load consists. Trapped in the cages are a number of cats and dogs. Some of them are moving around nervously in their tiny compartments, others are remarkably quiet and in a state of calm.

The animals are in the beginning of a process of waiting in which they either just seem to be killing time or enter the Dream Box. In the woods trees are swaying in the wind as the sun disappears behind the clouds.



# DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

After making a film depicting the transient beauty of abandoned buildings in Japan (*Silent Visitors*, 2012), I became highly fascinated by yet another lesser-known side of contemporary Japanese society. There lies a hidden world where kitties & cats / puppies & dogs have been banned from family homes and public streets, thereafter picked up by animal welfare centers and brought to generic buildings situated in the midst of mysterious woods. Here, away from their trusted environments, some of these cats and dogs start a process of waiting for the unknown whilst others enter the secretive Dream Box. This phenomenon exists in parallel with the highly contrasting but famous universe of kitty cuteness and puppy adoration that occupies a big piece of Japan's ubiquitous 'kawaii culture' (i.e. the culture of favoring all things cute). Dream Box shines a light on another side of this sugarcoated kawaii cake and focuses on a part of (Japanese) society that definitely deserves some more attention for a change.

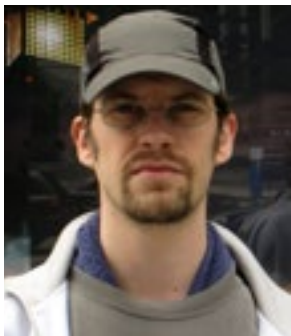
It is my ambition with this film to encourage spectators to ponder on how we humans treat our fellow non-human creatures on planet Earth as well as to provoke contemplation on matters such as animal ethics, consumerism, throw-away society, life and death,...

*Jeroen Van der Stock*



# TEAM

## JEROEN VAN DER STOCK AUTHOR/DIRECTOR



Jeroen Van der Stock (°1979, Belgium) graduated in 2002 at the Luca I School of Arts Brussels (department Audiovisual Arts / Film). In 2004 he was invited to study Chinese in Shanghai on a one year scholarship, but decided to stay a few more years in China.

He travelled three times to the Congo (2007-2010) to collaborate on two documentaries by Bram Van Paesschen: 'PALE PEKO BANTU MAMBO AYIKOSAKE' and 'EMPIRE OF DUST'. Jeroen made his debut feature documentary film 'WILD BEAST', an intimate portrait of a Chinese film extra, in 2008. 'WILD BEAST' was selected at various international film festivals and aired on VRT/ Canvas.

Jeroen moved from China to Japan in 2009 to work on his second documentary feature 'SILENT VISITORS'. The latter premiered at CPH:DOX 2012, screened at festivals such as Planete Doc Film Festival Warsaw, Gijon International Film Festival and Jeonju International Film Festival. 'SILENT VISITORS' won the 'Award for Best Film' at the Iselp Art Film Festival in Brussels. His most recent film is 'DREAM BOX' which will have its world premiere at the International Film Festival Rotterdam in January 2017.

## STEVEN DHOEDT PRODUCER



Steven Dhoedt (°1980, Gent) is a Belgian filmmaker, producer and cinematographer. He studied film at the RITCS School of Arts in Brussels and graduated as a Master in Audiovisual Arts.

After his studies he moved to Hong Kong, where he lived and worked for several years, gaining experience as a freelance producer and director. In 2003 he founded VISUALANTICS, a Brussels based independent production house, focusing on creative documentaries, fiction films and new media projects.

His films have screened on numerous film festivals all over the world and have been broadcasted on TV in over 30 countries. His most recent film, 'REACH FOR THE SKY', a documentary about the competitive South-Korean education system, had its world premiere at the Busan International Film Festival 2015 and won both the award for Best Belgian Documentary at the 2016 Docville festival and the Ensor for Best Documentary at the Film Festival of Ostend 2016.

# TEAM

## DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY **XAVIER VAN D'HUYNSLAGER**

Xavier Van D'huynslager (°1992, Belgium) studied at the KASK I School of Arts Ghent (department Film). After his studies Van D'huynslager spent most his time working as DP on several shorts and recently commenced doing commercial work.

In 2015 he was invited by Visualantics to shoot 'DREAM BOX', an experimental documentary by Jeroen Van Der Stock, situated in Japan.

'DREAM BOX' will have it's world premiere at IFFR 2017.



## EDITOR **BRAM VAN PAESSCHEN**

Bram Van Paesschen was born 1979 in Vilvoorde, Belgium. He graduated in 2002 from Sint-Lukas in Brussels, film/video specialization documentary. He lives and works in Brussels (except for when he's elsewhere).

After his final schoolwork, a mockumentary, he soon started developing and directing his own documentary projects, including 'World of Blue, land of O.', and 'Pale Peko Bantu', while editing his own films and those of other directors (a.o. Jeroen Van Der Stock's films 'Silent Visitors' and 'Wild Beast').

In 2011 he directed "Empire of Dust", produced by Savage Film, about Chinese presence in Africa. The film was a favorite on the international festival circuit, and was broadcast on several European channels.



## SOUND EDIT & DESIGN **BORIS DEBACKERE**

Boris Debackere is a sound artist and researcher teaching at LUCA School of Arts, KU Leuven. Debackere is currently serving as the head of V2\_Lab in Rotterdam, an instigator of artistic projects that interrogate and illuminate contemporary issues in art, science, technology, and society.

As a sound designer his scope ranges from media art over video art, like Herman Aselberghs' "a.m./p.m." (Courtisane Canvas price) and "Proof of Life" (1st price Transmediale), to cinema.

Debackere won the Georges Deleuze 2014 Prize for Best Original Music and Sound Design and received the 2015 Ensor Sound Design Award for Violet by Bas Devos.





# PRODUCTION INFO

English Title	<b>DREAM BOX</b>
Year of Production	<b>2017</b>
Country of Production	<b>BELGIUM</b>
Length	<b>42'22"</b>
Language	<b>no dialogue</b>
Subtitles	<b>none</b>
Colour	<b>Colour</b>
Shooting Format	<b>HD 1080p25</b>
Screening Format	<b>DCP / BluRay / Digital</b>
Sound	<b>5.1 Surround / Stereo</b>

[WWW.DREAMBOXMOVIE.COM](http://WWW.DREAMBOXMOVIE.COM)  
[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/DREAMBOXMOVIE](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/DREAMBOXMOVIE)

TRAILER  
[tba](#)

WORLD PREMIERE  
International Film Festival Rotterdam 2017



# CREDITS

**A film by**  
Jeroen Van der Stock

**a VISUALANTICS production**

**with the support of**  
the Flanders Audiovisual Fund

**Produced by**  
Steven Dhoedt

**Director of Photography**  
Xavier Van D'Huynslager

**Edited by**  
Bram Van Paesschen

**Sound editing & design**  
Boris Debackere

**Assistant Camera**  
Ken Ikeda

**Sound Recordist**  
Jeroen Van der Stock

**Production Manager Japan**  
Mariko Goto

**Image Post-Production Facilities**  
Mikros Image

**Grading**  
Olivier Ogneux

**End Credits & Online**  
Annelies Vaes

**DI & Confo**  
Pieter-Jan Uvyn  
Arnout Deurinck

**Post-Production Supervisor**  
Sophie Schyns  
Wim De Rick

**Sound Post-Production**  
A Sound

**Sound Mix**  
Thomas Vertongen

**Supervision & Planning**  
Nadine Lowette





# PRODUCTION COMPANY

## **VISUALANTICS**

VISUALANTICS, founded in 2003 and based in Brussels, specializes in independent projects for an international market and is involved in the field of new media, fiction and creative documentary. The company enjoys a growing reputation with contemporary documentaries; Reach for the SKY (on the education system in South-Korea), The Sound of Belgium (on the history of Belgian dance music), State of Play (on professional gaming in South-Korea), the Brussels Business (on lobbying in Brussels) and with award winning shorts such as 'The Extraordinary Life Of Rocky.

Today the company has had collaborations with national and international broadcasting companies such as ARTE, ZDF, NRK, SVT, YLE, VRT, RTBF, LICHTPUNT etc.

VISUALANTICS is a founding member of FlandersDoc, the Belgian-Flemish association of documentary producers.

### **FILMOGRAPHY**

- 2017 DREAM BOX / experimental documentary / 42' / in HD
- 2016 EXPRMNTL / documentary / 65' / in HD
- 2015 REACH FOR THE SKY / documentary / 90' & 52' / in HD
- 2014 BETWEEN THE DEVIL AND THE DEEP / documentary / 100' & 52' / in HD
- 2014 SHIP OF FOOLS / documentary / 85' & 52' / in HD
- 2014 THE HORSEMAN / short fiction / HD
- 2013 STATE OF PLAY / documentary / 85' & 52' / in HD
- 2013 THE SOUND OF BELGIUM /documentary / 85' / in HD
- 2012 THE BRUSSELS BUSINESS / documentary / 90' & 52' / in HD
- 2010 INSIDE THE METAVERSE / documentary / 52' / in HD
- 2010 THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE OF ROCKY / short fiction /15'/ S16mm
- 2009 NIGHTHAWKS / short fiction /13'50"/ 35mm
- 2008 VERBRANDMAN / short fiction /14'

More info can be found on [www.visualantics.net](http://www.visualantics.net).

# CONTACT

## PRESS & SCREENING INQUIRIES

### **VISUALANTICS**

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## PARTNERS

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