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a film by Vibeke Bryld

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# SYNOPSIS

*Elsewhere* is a film about the myths of Northern Denmark – where nature is rougher and faith stronger than in the rest of the country.

The film moves through the living, breathing organisms of the heath, the sea, and the woods. Guided by a voice from the past and accompanied by testimonies and rituals of the present, the film invites you to tune into an ancient frequency – one, that allows you to hear the call from the sea, experience the danger of the woods, and feel the restlessness of the moor.

*Elsewhere* speaks to our deep-rooted desire for belonging, connection, and eternal life. Existing between the earthbound and the beyond, the film mines the inner life of man and the hidden world of nature's magical spirits.



## INTRODUCTION



## ELSEWHERE

**Director** *Vibeke Bryld*  
**Producer** *Heidi Elise Christensen*  
**Company** *Final Cut For Real*

**World premiere** *CPH:DOX 2021*  
**nominated for** *Nordic:Dox:Award*

### contacts

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2

# DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

With *Elswehere*, I want to explore our profound longing for connection with our natural surroundings and eternal narratives. To unfold the magical potential that lies in the human encounter with nature. Nature, as this living, breathing place that outlives us all.

Man experiences this deep longing - and in Thy there is a wildness to the landscape which confronts man with his vulnerability while allowing him to glimpse the divine and sublime.

Through its haptic and associative images, the audience is invited into a world where nature envelops them, and they feel the unsettling presence of the unseen.

With *Elsewhere*, I wish to awaken the power of our imagination, and let senses, rather than reason guide our exploration of the mythological landscapes that we share.



*Vibeke Bryld, 2021*

# VIBEKE BRYLD

Vibeke Bryld is a film director and writer. She has directed a range of documentaries, art films and short films with support from DFI, DR, TV2 and Al Jazeera. Her films have competed at the Berlinale, Hot-Docs, CPH:DOX, and at several other international film festivals.

Bryld graduated as a director from Goldsmiths College in London and has a BA in literature. She has also served as editor-in-chief of the European film magazine DOX.

In 2018, the documentary **Without My Dad** premiered on the Danish network TV2, and a child-friendly version premiered at CPH:DOX in 2019. In 2016, her short film **Home is Not Here**, made in collaboration with the Goethe Institute, premiered at Uppsala Short Film Festival.

**Pebbles at Your Door**, produced by Heidi Elise Christensen for Final Cut for Real, premiered at the Berlinale in 2015 and **Bedtime Stories From the Axis of Evil** from 2011, was nominated for a Danish Film Academy Award for best short documentary.

Vibeke is also behind the virtual reality (VR) piece **Hush** which competed in the VR:Expanded series at Venice Film Festival last year. The VR piece was recently exhibited at the gallery Nikolaj Kunsthal from October 9th - December 6th. **Hush** was also nominated both for best documentary and best animated experience on the Raindance Immersive festival and for a Lumiere Award at Stereopsia.

**Hush** has just been selected for Atlanta Film Festival 2021.



# HEIDI ELISE CHRISTENSEN

Heidi has been with Final Cut for Real as a producer since 2014. From 2009-2014, she freelanced in the documentary industry and before that she was in charge of Nordisk Forum for Co-financing of Documentaries, in addition to facilitating the Nordic documentary industry at Filmkontakt Nord / Nordisk Panorama. She studied Comparative Literature and holds a BA in Film and Media Studies from University of Copenhagen. She is a Eurodoc graduate from 2015.

## FILMOGRAPHY (SELECTION):

Titel	Instruktør	År	Funktion
Songs of Repression	Moraga & Wagner	2020	Producer
Land of the Free	Camilla Magid	2017	Producer
Les Sauteurs	Wagner & Siebert	2016	Producer
15 Minutes - The Dvor Massacre	Larsen & Vedsmand	2015	Production
Pebbles at Your Door	Vibeke Bryld	2015	Producer
The Look of Silence	Joshua Oppenheimer	2014	Associated Producer





### The Gospel of Matthew, 12:43

When an impure spirit comes out of a person, it goes through arid places seeking rest and does not find it. Then it says, 'I will return to the house I left.' When it arrives, it finds the house unoccupied, swept clean and put in order. Then it goes and takes with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that person is worse than the first. That is how it will be with this wicked generation.

A person is walking in a field of yellow flowers in front of a house. The scene is captured in a dark, moody setting, possibly at dusk or dawn, with the house and trees in the background. The person is wearing a dark shirt and pants, and is walking towards the left side of the frame. The field of flowers is in the foreground, and the house is in the background, partially obscured by trees.

# MYTHS & RITUALS

## Fallen angels and the places they roam

**Beezlebub / The Drifter / The Invisible Dweller:** The devil has many names. Beelzebub is the only one of the fallen angels who never found a home. He is an eternal drifter; looking for lost souls, agnostics, and empty houses to inhabit. He is the root of all evil, all things inexplicable and unnatural.

**Merfolk:** Merfolk can summon both sand drifts and storms. If man is kind to them, they may help fight the dangers at sea. If not, they can stir up storms and cause death by drowning. The Mermaids lure young men towards them; towards the bottom of the ocean. Whistling while at sea awakens the wrath of the merfolk and causes storms and misfortune.

**Elder Women:** Elder Women and Elder Folk live in the elder trees. They steal children and exchange them with their own spawn. Elder Children look like ordinary human children, but they are unnatural. When the Elder Women breastfeed human children, they pass on strangeness and insanity.

**Hill Folk:** Hill Folk or Hill Men live inside hilltops and mountains. They desire young women, who they abduct or sway. No one can find the entrances or the exist to their dens. The abducted girls often end up bearing the Hill Men's children.

# CREDITS

**Director** *Vibeke Bryld*

**Producer** *Heidi Elise Christensen*

**DOP** *Lis Dyre*

**Editor** *Julius Krebs Damsbo*

**Sound Designer** *Sune Kaarsberg*

**Composer** *Signe Lykke*

**Production Manager** *Anna Risgaard Dahl*

**Narrator** *Christian Sommer*

**Additional Cinematography** *Martin La Cour*

**Steadicam Operators** *Jonas Torp, Torben Meldgaard Andersen,  
Lars Nørlund Mortensen*

**Colorist** *Anders V. Christensen, Kong Gulerod Film*

**Post Producers** *Francesc Sitges Sardá, Maria Kristensen, Esther Nissen*

**With support from** *New Danish Screen, Marie Schmidt Olesen*

*FAF*