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HISTORY UNCOVERED

Season 2

Showrunners: Olivier Wieviorka & David Korn-Brzoza
Cinétévé / 6 x 52' / HD

Myths die hard, and the history of the 20th century is no exception to the rule. Even now, there are dubious notions that we still take for Gospel truth. What if the historical truth was slightly different? This archive-based documentary collection revisits key moments in the 20th century from a new perspective in order to provide a subtler and more thoughtful interpretation, shedding light on elements that have been forgotten or sometimes overshadowed.



SWITZERLAND AND WWII: An exemplary neutrality?

Directed by Philippe Saada

WATCH THE MOVIE
pw. [neutrality2020?](#)

History has bequeathed to us an image of Switzerland as a country that maintained admirable neutrality during World War II. And yet! From 1939 to 1945 the tiny Confederation abandoned its legendary values, and business-as-usual took precedence over other considerations. The country preserved its neutrality by taking liberties with its most fundamental principles, even when those concessions compromised its own honor.



JOHN-PAUL II: A Modern Pope?

Directed by Christiane Ratiney

WATCH THE MOVIE
pw. [modern2020?](#)

John Paul II has gone down in posterity as a modern pope who defended freedom. And yet! Favoring upholders of traditional morals over reformists, the Holy Father broke the momentum (towards freedom) in developing nations – particularly in Latin America. Preferring injustice to unrest, he also covered up scandals in an institution that claims to be exemplary. A pope whose fast-track canonization conceals numerous gray areas...

- HISTORY -



THE DENAZIFICATION OF GERMANY: A Successful Process?

PRE-SALES / DELIVERY FALL 2020

Directed by Mickael Gamrasni

Posterity has inherited an image of the denazification orchestrated by the Allies and continued by the Germans after World War II as having been remarkably successful. The process is believed to have lastingly extracted German society from the throes of fascism, totalitarianism and authoritarianism, to the point that Germany has become a model of tolerance and democracy. And yet! That massive purging was far from thorough; on the contrary, it hit plenty of dead ends and let many issues slip through the cracks.



OPERATION OVERLORD: A Massive Victory?

PRE-SALES / DELIVERY FALL 2020

Directed by Bernard George

Posterity has inherited an image of Operation Overlord as a heroic achievement. Thanks to an instinctive understanding uniting the British and the Americans and the irreproachable combativeness of their troops – firm in the belief that they were fighting for freedom and democracy, the Allied Landing is remembered as an overwhelming victory. And yet! Between disagreements amongst the leaders, hasty planning, logistical problems, the vagaries of the weather, and the soldiers' lack of preparedness, Operation Overlord was very nearly a fiasco.



THE BRITISH EMPIRE: A Model of Decolonization?

PRE-SALES / DELIVERY FALL 2020

Directed by Déborah Ford

Posterity has inherited the idea that British decolonization was a peaceful, consensual and exemplary process. Unlike the other colonial powers, which clung to their imperialist dreams, the government of His, and later Her, Majesty offered the peoples under its dominion a peaceful transition to independence. And yet! Decolonization from the United Kingdom was no walk in the park. With violent repression, forced displacement of populations, internment camps and civil wars, the British crown didn't let go of its colonial jewels until it was forced to... often at the price of great bloodshed!



RONALD REAGAN: An Unqualified President?

PRE-SALES / DELIVERY FALL 2020

Directed by Cédric Condom

Posterity has inherited a disastrous image of President Reagan: a series B actor with limited intellectual capacity who preferred napping to reading briefings, and playing cowboy on his ranch to taking his role as president of the United States of America seriously. And yet! One of the most popular and controversial President in American history is nothing like the caricature of him.

FRENCH DECOLONIZATIONS, BLOOD AND TEARS

Directed by David Korn-Brzoza
Cinétévé / 2 x 80' / HD

WATCH THE EPISODE 1
pw: tearspart1

WATCH THE EPISODE 2
pw: tearspart2

With over 45 countries and territories involved across all five continents, three decades of claims, struggles, hopes and disillusiones and over half a billion people still bearing this legacy today, French decolonization is one of the major shocks of the 20th century. However this key historical episode remains largely unknown and confrontational, burdened by the weight of prejudices, violence, crime, guilt and nostalgia. Through the voice of the last witnesses having experienced the events firsthand, but also through the testimony of their descendants who today are the bearers of this memory, our account will focus on the human dimension to offer for the first time a global synthesis of a shared heritage which still remains sensitive.

As a director specialized in history and specifically 100% recolored historical footage, David Korn-Brzoza has written and directed numerous landmark documentaries on the major conflicts of the 20th century, on the history of the Third Reich, and on espionage. In 2002, he wins the Gold Plaque at the Chicago International Film Festival for *Echelon: The Secret Power*. In 2004, he also receives an award for Best Scientific Film at the Teleciencia Festival and a World Gold Medal at the New York Film Festival for *Superbat*. Most of his films have been aired in primetime and have received a huge success in terms of both critical acclaim and attendance. Since 2015, *After Hitler* and *Hitler's Last Year* count among the films that totaled the largest audiences of National Geographic.



RWANDA, A LEGACY OF GENOCIDE

Directed by André Versaille
CinéTévé / 52' / HD

WATCH THE MOVIE
PW: [rwandaVA](#)

Their names are Julien, Jean, Ange, Serge, François, or Assumpta. Ranging in age from 16 to 25, they belong to the new Rwandan generation, the one that was born into a legacy of genocide. They have grown up with guilt or wounds from crimes that are not their own. Their uncompromising testimonies unveil their fears, questions, and fierce determination to understand. With rare sincerity, this documentary reveals remarkable points of view, those of a country's youth trying to rise from the ashes of a genocidal past.



SHE HAD A DREAM

Directed by Raja Amari
Cinétévé / 90' / HD

Ghofrane, 25, is a young North African woman. A committed activist who speaks her mind, she embodies Tunisia's current political upheaval. As a victim of racial discrimination, Ghofrane decides to go into politics. We follow her extraordinary path, ranging from acting on her ambition to disillusion. Through her attempts to persuade both close friends and complete strangers to vote for her, her campaign reveals the many faces of a country seeking to forge a new identity. In its own unique way, this documentary sheds light on women's place in Tunisia's changing society.



THE CALL OF THE FAR NORTH

Directed by Matthieu Maillet
Cinétévé / 52' / HD

WATCH THE MOVIE
PW: north2020

With Jack London's stories in his pocket, our host Philippe Simay (*Show me where you live*) heads off to experience with his own body and senses a land known to be inhospitable to humans: Canada's Far North. Over the course of his journey, he meets legendary local figures that one might think had disappeared from the landscape: gold miners, dog mushers, hunters, representatives of Canada's First Nations, lumberjacks and other woodsmen. A stunning road movie, *The Call of the Far North* leads us to question humanity's greed and our race to conquer ever more territory.





JACQUES AUDIARD, A Self-Made Hero

WATCH
THE ROUGH CUT
pw: hero2020

Directed by Pierre-Henri Gibert
Cinétévé / 52' / HD

In eight films, Jacques Audiard (*A Prophet*, *Rust and Bone*, *Deephan*) made his mark as one of the most important French filmmakers. His singular oeuvre enjoys unparalleled audience and critical acclaim. The man himself, however, preferred to live outside of the public eye. For the first time ever, this film sheds light on his life and work as seen from inside.



CHARLOTTE PERRIAND, Pioneer in the Art of Living

WATCH THE MOVIE
pw: charlotte

Directed by Stéphane Ghez
Cinétévé / 52' / HD

The architect and designer Charlotte Perriand ranks among the great creative figures of the twentieth century. She championed modernity and the art of inhabiting with her revolutionary furniture designs.



JAMES TISSOT, the Ambiguous Figure of Modernity

WATCH THE MOVIE
pw: james

Directed by Pascale Bouhénic
Cinétévé / 52' / HD

James Tissot (1836-1902) was a delightful painter of fashion and appearances. This film reveals a far more complex and interesting artist for whom superficiality was a way to reveal hidden truths about society and its codes.



DORA MAAR, Between Light and Shade

WATCH THE MOVIE
pw: Maar

Directed by Marie-Eve de Grave
Cinétévé / 52' / HD

An immersion in Dora Maar's photography and painting, the film follows the dazzling path of a unique woman who was Picasso's lover, subject, and muse.



VOLKER SCHLÖNDORFF, the Beat of the Drum

WATCH THE MOVIE
pw: volker

Directed by Pierre-Henri Gibert
Cinétévé / 52' / HD

Volker Schlöndorff is the most European of German filmmakers. From *The Tin Drum* to *Diplomacy*, this film explores the life and work of a border-crossing artist who, by leaving his country, gained the perspective to portray it better than anyone else.

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DELIVERY SPRING 2021

IRAQ'S LOST GENERATION

Directed by Anne Poiret
CinéTévé / 52' & 70' / HD / [Delivery Spring 2021](#)

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There are believed to be some one hundred thousand children that have been fending for themselves since the battle against ISIS. From orphans in the streets of Mosul to "the children of ISIS," whose families had pledged allegiance to the caliphate. Since their existence is not legally recognized, they have no I.D., and therefore no access to education, medical care, or food assistance. Since the fall of ISIS, tens of thousands of children have also been held in camps along with the most radicalized of the women. They are living in catastrophic sanitary and humanitarian conditions that have only worsened with the Covid-19 crisis. An unprecedented investigation into a generation of young victims of the war against the Islamic State. How can we help them to believe in the future and to find a place in society, so that they do not become a threat to the international community?

ANNE POIRET is a filmmaker and investigative broadcast journalist based in Paris. She won the most prestigious journalism award in France in 2007 – the Albert Londres Prize for her film shot in Sri Lanka *Muttur: a Crime Against Humanitarians*. Anne has often filmed the traumas of the "neither peace, nor war" situations in the Middle East, Cambodia, Africa... Her recent filmography includes: *State-Builders* on the UN in South Sudan, *The Envoy, inside Syria Peace Negotiations* that focuses on the work of Staffan de Mistura, the UN Special Envoy for Syria or *My country makes weapons* on the French weapons industry. *The Genocide of the II Reich* on the forgotten genocide in Namibia and *Welcome to Refugeestan* on UNHCR and refugee camps all over the world - were selected in a dozen European documentary festivals. Her latest film *Mosul after the war* was broadcast in France, Germany, Sweden and Switzerland last spring.



RESTITUTION? AFRICA'S MISSING MASTERPIECES

Directed by Nora Philippe
CinéTévé / 52' & 75' / HD / [Delivery Spring 2021](#)

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INFORMATION](#)

A unique art-history saga, this film recounts the troubling story of the African artwork that fills European museums, and whose return is now being demanded by their countries of origin. Snatched up like trophies by colonizers, the works fertilized European art before acquiring recognition as universal masterpieces in their own right. But in Africa, their absence is still traumatic. Through the burning question of their possible restitution, the film invites us to reconsider both our cultural heritage and museums' role in reinventing our relationship with Africa.

A filmmaker and screenplay-writer having trained as an art historian, Nora Philippe regularly programs French film cycles for Columbia University, including "Blackness in French Film" in 2018, in line with her research into representations of black people. She is an associate member of the Paris-Descartes University's national-research agency research project into restitution, « ReTours, géopolitiques du patrimoine, économies du retour, imaginaires du tourisme » ("ReTurns, the geopolitics of cultural heritage, the economics of restitution, and touristic imagination.")



TOULOUSE- LAUTREC, THE BALLET

Directed by Luc Riolon
CinéTévé / 100' / HD / [Delivery Winter 2020](#)

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Choreography by Kader Belarbi (*The Nutcracker, The Dead Queen*)
Music by Bruno Coulais (*Les Choristes, Oceans*)
Costumes by Olivier Bériot (*Lucy* by Luc Besson, *Taken* trilogy, *Valerian*)

Composed around the life and work of the painter Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, the ballet takes us straight to the heart of Belle Époque in Paris: the cabarets, the balls at the Moulin Rouge, the parties and pleasure palaces. The painter's life provides the framework for the ballet: the story of a short man who rose above his physical handicap by throwing himself body and soul into art, pleasure and an unrestrained and profligate social life, until his death from disease at age 36.



THE DAMNED OF PARIS COMMUNE

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PARIS COMMUNE IN 2021

Directed by Raphaël Meyssan
CinéTévé / 90' / HD / [Delivery Spring 2021](#)

WATCH
THE TEASER

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Paris, 1871: Immediately after suffering defeat at the hands of the Prussians, a wind of revolution blows over the French capital, sweeping away the last vestiges of the Second Empire. Impassioned supporters of the Social Republic take up arms against the government, which has fled to Versailles. An animated graphic documentary, *The Damned of the Paris Commune* draws us deep into Commune Paris through the stories of Victorine and other insurgents, all destined for tragic fates.



FURCY, FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM

Directed by Pierre Lane
Cinétévé / 52' / HD / [Delivery Spring 2021](#)

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For over 25 years, from 1817 to 1843, Furcy, who was officially considered a slave on Bourbon Island (the former name of Reunion Island), fought to get the highest court in the Kingdom of France to recognize his status as a free man. The most amazing part of the story is that he won. There is no other known case anywhere in the world in which an enslaved person sued his master in order to regain his freedom. Just a few years after the verdict was returned at the Royal Court of Paris recognizing Furcy's freedom, slavery was abolished in all French colonies. How is it possible that Furcy won? What kind of man was he? What does his story have to tell us two centuries later? The documentary will explore the life of this exceptional man.





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CINÉTÉVÉ, a leading and awarded Paris-based production company established in 1982, whose catalogue comprises more than 800 hours of programs in the fields of history, investigation, arts, discovery and science, has launched in 2020 its new distribution branch, Cinétévé Sales. Handling pre-sales and sales for all our in-house productions, we also aim to acquire new external projects for distribution as well as to develop international coproductions with foreign partners.