



TWIVES

A TALE IN VIRTUAL REALITY

A fiction in virtual reality

Written by Charles Ayats and Sabrina Calvo,
directed by Jan Kounen, with a music by Franck Weber

Application available on OCULUS RIFT and HTC Vive / 360° video available on Youtube





SYNOPSIS

Tokyo.

A teenage girl jumps in front of a subway train.

Her soul rises from the tracks.

On the platform, the witnesses to the scene are in a state of shock.

It has awoken a traumatic memory in each of them.

A painful memory, that plays out again and again.

To end its wandering, the soul must pass into each of their minds,

delve into their memories, and help them find peace.

DISTRIBUTION

Information: <http://francetvlab.fr/7lives>

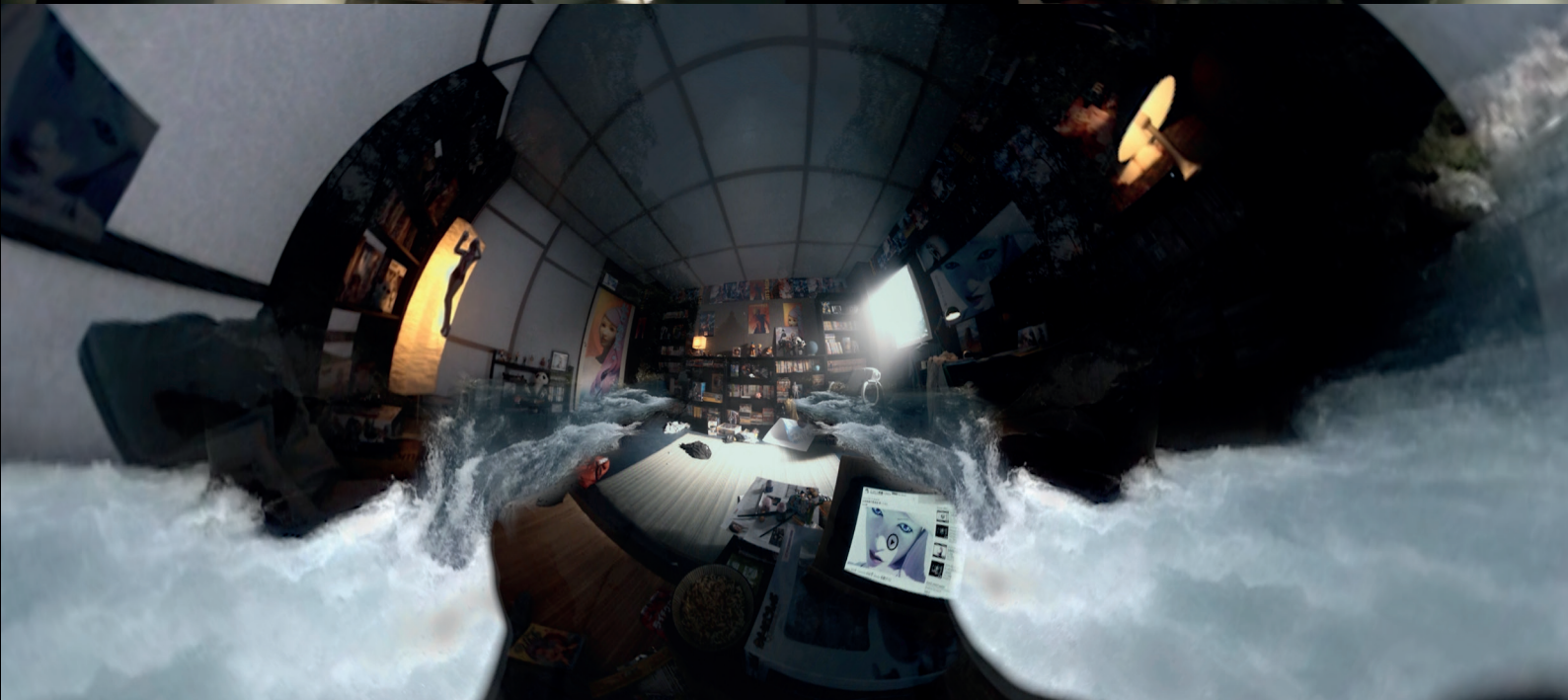
Length : 20 to 25 minutes

Langage : French / English

Release : 2019

The interactive app will be available for Oculus Rift, Viveport, Steam.

The 360° linear video will be available on Gear VR and Youtube.



THE PROJECT

WHAT WOULD YOU SHARE WITH STRANGERS ON THE SUBWAY?

7 lives is a VR tale that takes you to a world where ordinary boundaries disappear.

In a suspended moment, you access emotions, visions and memories of others and travel seamlessly between opposing dimensions : intimacy and appearances, past and present, living and dead.

Taking root in Japan and shinto, **7 lives** arouse an imagination shared by a whole generation, inspired by japanim and mangas. The narrative yet has a true universal dimension through the very contemporary notions of trauma and resilience. Empathy here is not used as a nice approval to cute things, but a new way to combine narratives, interactions and physical commitments to learn about ourselves and others, beyond words.

AN ENCOUNTER BETWEEN FILM AND VIDEO GAME

7 lives has a great technical ambition. It mixes stereoscopic live-action, shot with the new Google Yi Halo camera, with CGI and interactions.

7 lives gathers renowned professionals from different disciplines. The filmmaker Jan Kouen (Doberman, Blueberry, 99 francs) brought his ideas and skills in scenography, acting and editing to the interactive scenario written by the video game designers Charles Ayats (SENS VR) and Sabrina Calvo (Toxoplasma). The sound designer Franck Weber and the postproduction team of Small Studio completed this hybrid team at a very early development stage.

A EUROPEAN PRODUCTION

7 lives is being produced by Red Corner, France Télévisions, a_Bahn and Frakas Productions, with the support of the CNC, the Film Fund Luxembourg, the Belgian Tax Shelter, Wallimages and Creative Wallonia. It is part of the high-end digital creations supported by European public and private actors that contribute to renew imaginaries and forms through new technologies.

7 lives is part of Virtual Arcade, the prestigious Tribeca Film Festival's VR selection, that takes place at the end of April 2019.

QUOTES

“New though it is, VR already has a large range of specificities to utilize – or not – depending on the narrative proposal.

In **7 Lives**, we focused on an incarnation that utilizes a first-person POV to be able to then amplify out-of-body sensations. Over the course of writing we favored a sensory approach in which characters and the narrative framework become secondary; instead it is the environment and the characters' physical reactions that propel the story forward. In this way, we were able to spark introspection and the sense of presence we wanted to achieve.”

CHARLES AYATS ET SABRINA CALVO, SCREENWRITERS

“Since the advent of cinema, we've been working inside the screen, and we haven't stopped toying with the limits of the frame. 360-degree experiences have been a game-changer: a virtual reality film is stored in the viewer's mind like a lived memory. We can bring out sensations and emotions with unprecedented depth and poetry. These new tools afford many different possibilities for continuing the work on altered states of consciousness I started with *Blueberry*, in documentary and in fiction (*Other Worlds*, *99 Francs*).”

JAN KOUNEN, DIRECTOR

THE CREATORS



JAN KOUNEN

After studying at the Ecole des Arts Décoratifs in Nice, where he directed his first short films, In 1989, he made the short film Gisele Kerosene, crowned Grand Prix in the category of Avoriaz Fantastic Film Festival, Vibroboy and Little Red Riding Hood. In 1996, he made his first feature film on the eccentric and violent dog breed Dobermann, starring French actor Vincent Cassel. Jan Kounen then traveled across Mexico and Peru, where he immersed in shaman culture and returned in 2004 with the Western Blueberry, an adaptation of the famous comic strip. The same year, he continued his study of shamanism with the documentary Other Worlds. After making his film Darshan - The Embrace (2005), Kounen staged the Comedy 99 F in 2007, a satire of the world of advertising adapted from the bestseller by Frédéric Beigbeder and produced by Jean Dujardin. He then made a film that captured Coco Chanel & Igor Stravinsky in which he depicts the connection of passion between the famous seamstress with the Russian composer. Starring Anna Mouglalis and Mads Mikkelsen the film closed the 2009 Cannes Festival.



CHARLES AYATS

Charles Ayats obtained a Master's degree in Interactive Digital Experience from the École de l'image Les Gobelins in Paris. As an interactive designer of web documentaries for ARTE, he creates participatory experiences, often enriched with game mechanics to facilitate transmission of knowledge, exemplified by Type: Rider (2013) on the history of typography. Always on the lookout for new formats to tell his stories, he is particularly interested in innovative mediation projects, and regularly takes part in hackathons.

Filmography | Type:rider, Speedfarming, Tati Express, Phi, SENS VR, Les animaux et nous, 7lives



SABRINA CALVO

Sabrina likes to invent fantastic, quirky and always poetic worlds. She has been living in Hollywood for a few years, writing for magazines (POMO Frag, Disneyland Babylon and Animation Blast). She is a prolific writer, her work deals with the role of imagination in our societies, and the resurgence of mystery in our lives. She has been collaborating on the Wakfu project, owned by Ankama studio, and working for Tru Love and Dontnod Eleven as a writer and a narrative designer. Far from preconceived views on video games, Sabrina proves that they are a new extension to literature, movies and comics. In 2017, she finishes the novel Toxoplasma, an apocalyptic thriller on the basis of B-movies and political science-fiction.

THE PRODUCERS

**RED
COR
NER**

RedCorner is an interactive production company, founded by film producers to mutualise a real know how in conception of innovative contents, linked to their films or only digital. Websites, movie and games in virtual reality, all of our projects gather the best creators and developers around meaningful and emotional contents.

Driven by Marie Blondiaux, the company has namely produced or coproduced : Phi, The Wanted 18, Le Dernier Gaulois, Radioactivity, Pas si Bêtes, SENS VR (Unity Summit Vision, Tribeca Film Festival, Cannes Film Festival, Mostra Film Festival) and 7 lives.

france•tv

France Télévisions is the French public national television broadcaster. It is a state-owned company formed from the integration of the public television channels France 2, France 3, later joined by the legally independent channels France 5, France Ô, and France 4. France Télévisions is currently funded by the revenue from television licence fees and commercial advertising. Through its innovative department, France Télévisions Nouvelles écritures, the group coproduces and finances high end content for next technologies (Web and VR namely).

a_BAHN
INDEPENDENT PRODUCTION COMPANY

a_BAHN is a distinctive film production company based in Luxembourg and France, with unique experience in social impact producing and outreach. Its goal is to infuse the approach to content with a sense of the civic dimension. This commitment is its DNA.

a_BAHN works with networks such as ARTE, SWR, and France Télévisions, is proud to receive steady support from the Film Fund Luxembourg and the CNC, as well as international and regional funds such as Pictanovo, Europe Creative Media or Wallimage. Its projects are regularly selected for and awarded by international competitions and festivals (Annecy, Tribeca, FIFA, Prix Europa, FIPA...).

FRAKAS
PRODUCTIONS

FraKas is a cinema production house which, through a collaboration with young directors, dares to take a sharp look at today's society through a series of films with powerful, gritty and ambitious themes and with a strong taste of what we call « genre cinema ». FraKas is also developing Cartoons in collaboration with Luxembourg based "La Fabrique d'Images".

CREDITS

A RED CORNER production

In coproduction with
FRANCE TELEVISIONS
a_BAHN
FRAKAS PRODUCTIONS

Written by Charles AYATS and Sabrina CALVO

Directed by Jan KOUNEN

Music by FRANCK WEBER

Produced by Marie BLONDIAUX
and Adrien OUMHANI

Coproduced by
Annick JAKOBOWICZ
François LE GALL
Stéphane HUEBER-BLIES
Nicolas BLIES, Marion GUTH,
Jean-Yves ROUBIN
Cassandra WARNAUTS

With

Heroine 2018 : Clara CHOI
Heroine 2080 : Mariko AOYAMA
The Salary Girl: Mizuki KONDO
The Boss : KENTARO
The Teenage Girl : Nagisa MORIMOTO
The Survivor : Yongsou CHO
The Otaku : Jun AZUMA
The Nurse : Kyoko KASHII
The Little Girl : Karen HAMAYA
The Doctor : Hiro UCHIYAMA
Otaku's Mother : Hiromi ASAI
The Dog : MAURICE

Director of Photography: Hugues ESPINASSE

VR Operator : Céline TRICART

VFX : SMALL STUDIO

Vincent GUTTMAN

Thomas EID

1st Assistant Director: Stef GLUCK

2nd Assistant Director: Harald RUDE

Sound Engineer: Céline BODSON

Art Director : Marc-Philippe GUERIG

Set Designer : Audrey DHIVERT

Costume Designer : Carmen DI PINTO

Make-up Artist: Julie ASSELBORN

Hair Stylist: Mike CARPINI

Gaffer: Helder DA SILVA

Key Grip : Ulysse CHARLIER

Photogrammetry : Antoine GUERCHAIS

Production Director : Sébastien LEPINAY

Production Supervisor : Philipp REIMER

With the Participation of the Film Fund Luxembourg
and the Centre national du Cinéma et de l'Image
animée - Fonds Nouveaux médias.

With support from the CNC (Nouvelles Technologies
en Production & Création Visuelle et Sonore) the Tax
Shelter of the Gouvernement Fédéral Belge Casa
Kafka Pictures Movie Tax Shelter Empowered by
Belfius - Isabelle Molhant

Production Co-financed by Wallimage Creative
and Creative Wallonia and presented at the Venice
Gap-Financing Market 2017

OFFICIAL WEBSITE + PRESS KIT

<http://francetvlab.fr/7lives>

PRESS CONTACT

Marie Blondiaux

labelredcorner@gmail.com

TRAILER

<https://youtu.be/nY4YrJgnWlk>