



A WORD



FOR HUMAN



A FILM BY MAURICIO GONZÁLEZ-ARANDA
 PRODUCED IN ASSOCIATION WITH FINAL CUT FOR REAL BY MAURICIO GONZÁLEZ-ARANDA AND SIGNE BYRGE SØRENSEN
 DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY AND EDITOR MAURICIO GONZÁLEZ-ARANDA COMPOSERS CHRISTIAN BALVIG AND ADAM LILJENFELDT
 SOUND DESIGN AND MIXER WILLIAM SKOV HANSEN COLORIST MARIA KLARLUND POST SUPERVISOR ANDERS V. CHRISTENSEN I
 KONG GULEROD FILM GRAPHICS AOBHE JESSEN AND MARIA KRISTENSEN POSTER MICHAEL LÄNGER
 WITH SUPPORT FROM KODA'S CULTURAL FUNDS

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A documentary portrait of The Royal Danish Library, a place where the love for literature and culture is no longer bound to a book's spine.

SYNOPSIS

Welcome to the halls of the Royal Danish Library where the echoes of knowledge long ring true. Hover alongside producer Christina Back as she curates an exhibition about the colonial gaze and Denmark's history of slavery. Lie in silence experiencing the calm emanating from a chamber of treasures curated by Marina Abramovic. Shadow producer Lise Bach Hansen backstage to the Queen's Hall auditorium, reverberating with the booming words and images of Olafur Eliasson, Henrik Saxgren, and Kim Leine about the fate of the arctic. Peer over the shoulder of senior researcher Anders Toftgaard, buried in his readings, as he tries to understand the motivations of a book collector obsessed with Michel de Montaigne. Listen to the emotions that stem directly from knowledge and literature as the seasons come and go beyond the prismatic walls of the Black Diamond in the heart of Copenhagen.



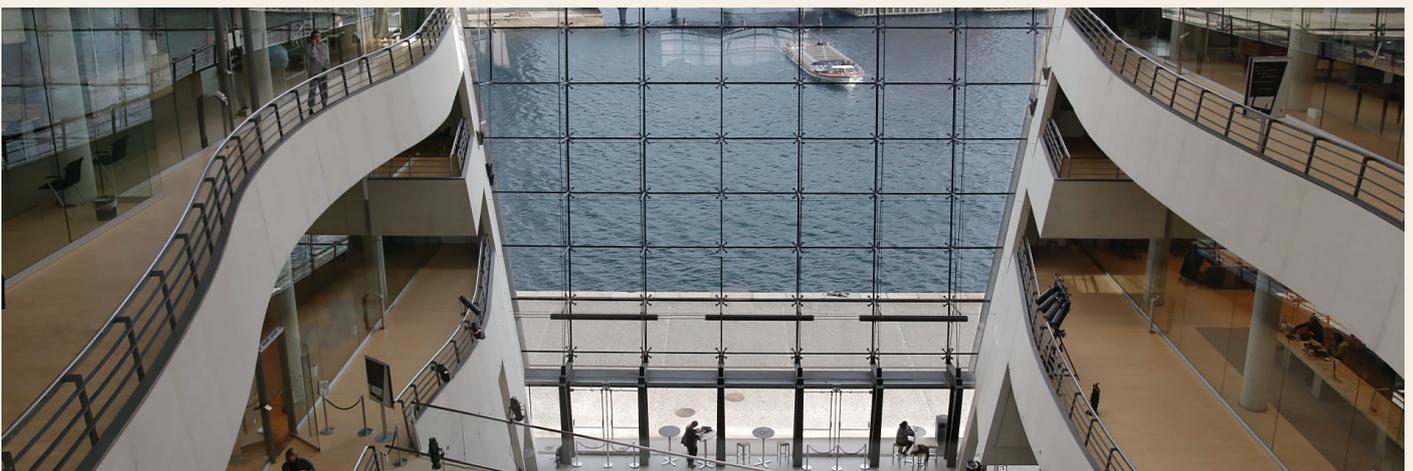
ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Mauricio Gonzalez-Aranda was born in Mexico and later moved to the US, where he completed most of his education. He graduated in 2015 from Princeton University with a Bachelor's Degree in Physics. Following graduation, Mauricio began at Final Cut for Real as a researcher for Joshua Oppenheimer and has also been involved as production assistant in both fiction and non-fiction films, including STRONG ISLAND, THE DISTANT BARKING OF DOGS, THE NILE HILTON INCIDENT and WHAT WALAA WANTS.

A WORD FOR HUMAN is his first feature documentary.

ABOUT THE PRODUCER

Signe Byrge Sørensen is a two-time Oscar® nominee for producing THE ACT OF KILLING in 2014 and THE LOOK OF SILENCE in 2016. Signe Byrge Sørensen has been a producer since 1998. She began in SPOR Media in 1998, moved to Final Cut Productions ApS in 2004 and founded Final Cut for Real ApS in 2009. She has produced documentaries in South Africa, Zimbabwe, Senegal, Thailand, Indonesia, Colombia and Argentina, besides Denmark and Sweden. She holds an MA in International Development Studies and Communication Studies from Roskilde University, Denmark. She did the European co-production courses EURODOC in 2003 and EAVE in 2010.



DIRECTOR'S NOTES

"As long as I can remember, I have been in love with libraries—fanatic enough to know that my proper nomenclature is not "bibliophile" but "library-phile." That is, I am in love with the vitality that libraries themselves emanate from their halls and walls. It is a protective aura similar to what you felt when you, as a child, opened a book for the first time out of genuine curiosity, wondering if there would be enough time to learn it all. Similar to when the worries of your hectic, goal-oriented, and jaded lifestyle were left outside when you crossed the threshold to an art exhibit and you felt your soul exhale.

These beautiful feelings transcend medium and reveal the timeless power of libraries. They are not confined to books or digital catalogues or avant-garde exhibits but instead percolate inside every hall of every library, as if reverberating long after any occurrence of self-discovery. This is why we feel peace and power upon entrance to a library.

When I first set foot in Copenhagen's The Black Diamond, this familiar sensation pronounced itself and consumed me, and I felt an ardent need to share this library's beauty through film. The more I researched its functions and learned about its global impact and influence, the more this instinctive feeling deepened."

/ Mauricio Gonzalez-Aranda, March 2019



Mauricio Gonzalez-Aranda 2019

FACTS ABOUT THE FILM

Director: Mauricio González-Aranda

Producers: Mauricio González-Aranda and
Signe Byrge Sørensen

Production Company: Final Cut for Real

Duration: 59 mins

Language: English, Danish

Subtitles: English

World Premiere: 21st of March, 2019 at CPH:DOX

N. American Premiere: Full Frame Festival, April 2020

With support from: Koda's Cultural Funds



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