



BEYOND THE CLICHÉS

20 YEARS OF CREATIVE JOY

FRANCKVOGEL
PHOTOGRAPHER

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Duration 50 min

A conference driven by the joy of creation

Photographer by revelation. After obtaining his degree from AgroParisTech engineering school, Franck Vogel embarked on a photographic world tour in 2002, which led him to a completely different career than the one he was destined for. Adoption in Kenya by a Maasai chief, meeting Pity, a 3-year-old living in an Indian Himalayan village at an altitude of 4,270 meters, the serenity of Buddhist religion, the contemplation of fishermen's mutual aid in an Indian river... propelled him into a life of an engaged storyteller.

Ambassador by nature. For over 20 years, Franck Vogel has been committed to witnessing, transmitting, and inspiring. Photographer, director, and reporter for the international press (Paris Match, GEO, Stern, Bloomberg, France Télévisions...), Franck is the ambassador of Bishnois, an ecological community he promoted through *Rajasthan, the soul of a prophet* (2010), a documentary film that won the Golden Phoenix and the Terre Sauvage Awards.

Voyage in plénitude. This conference proposes a journey exploring encounters and continents. Through the eyes of an engaged artist, who does not hesitate to carry his bags on his back and disappear behind his camera, the humanist photographer shares his stories of men, women, traditions, and territories, all combined with joy.



FRANCK VOGEL

Photographer, director and reporter for the international press (Paris Match, Geo, Stern, Bloomberg, France Télévision...) for more than twenty years, Franck Vogel strives to (re)knowledge the cultures and the means of living in harmony with nature. After several reportages on territorial tensions linked to water access, he published *Fleuves Frontières - Transboundary Rivers - Will water wars take place?* (La Martinière Publishing, 2016). Franck Vogel is a member of the French Explorers' Society and Everyday Climate Change.

Information

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As Jacques Cousteau's successor at the French Academy, I was deeply touched by Franck Vogel's photographs and his wonderful book on Transboundary Rivers. Besides his committed work, he is a great storyteller and knows how to engage with his audience.



Erik Orsenna
de l'Académie française.

FRIENDSHIP

Girajay and his friend Galianguare fish with rods and a mosquito net near the 26-bridge road, built by China, which crosses the plains flooded by the flood of the Zambezi. Zambia, 2018



Photo © Franck Vogel



THE REVELATION

The Shwe Mjintzu Yaylal Buddhist temple is located on Lake Indawgyi. There I met my meditation master and discovered my vocation: to travel, meet, photograph and inspire. Myanmar, 2002



ADOPTION

Pilot, my Massai brother, scans the horizon in search of a lion at daybreak. During my year-long hitchhiking trip through Africa and Asia, I was adopted by a Massai chief. Kenya, 2002



RECOGNITION

The Massai, belonging to the Nilotic societies, emigrated from southern Sudan around the 15th century, accompanied by their livestock. Massai warriors are known to be very courageous. Tanzania, 2002



CONTEMPLATION

Chameleon crossing the red dirt track leading to the Veyula missionary church, near Dodoma. The brothers cultivate vines here and produce their own sacramental wine. Tanzania, 2002



THE MEETING

Little Pity (3 years old) lives in Kibber, a village located at an altitude of 4,270 m in Spiti, in the Indian Himalayas. A great encounter during a walk after sunrise followed by an hour of play. India, 2002



SHARING

Barley harvest with sickle in Alchi, in the Indian Himalayas. The whole family helps each other with the harvests and moves from one plot to another, in order to be as efficient as possible. India, 2002



MUTUAL HELP

Dulen Mili fishes with a traditional net on the Brahmaputra, near Modarguri. He shares it with another family. The net is oriented to catch fish coming upstream. Assam, India, 2013



SACRED WATER

On the banks of the sacred Lake Tana, which is also the source of the Blue Nile, believers are sprinkled with water by a priest from the Ura Kidane Mihret monastery during Timqet. Ethiopia 2012



ADAPTATION

Floating village of Mecheray, on Tonle Sap Lake. Chenda, 13, returns home after running some errands. Cambodia, 2016



DEDICATION

Just after bottle-feeding them, Danu Ram Bishnoi kisses two wild fawns like his own children. He saved them four days ago from a dog attack, but was unable to save their mother. Rajasthan, India, 2007



MIGRATION

For centuries, for the annual flood of the Zambezi, the Barotsve have celebrated Kuumboka ("coming out of the water"). The king sails towards his second palace, higher in altitude, powered by 120 paddlers. Zambia, 2018



THE VISIONARY

Khamu Ram Bishnoi travels across India and tries to convince the population to use their trash in order to protect the environment from plastic pollution. India, 2010



SERENITY

Buddhist monks at Kaza Monastery in the Indian Himalayas celebrate the Dalai Lama's birthday. India, 2002



WISDOM

Jamku Devi (85) has been married to Jodha Ram Bishnoi for 67 years. Since the 15th century, Bishnois women have enjoyed five days of rest during their periods. Rajasthan, India, 2007



HARMONY

During the Jamba pilgrimage, and since the 15th century, each Bishnoi family offers wheat to feed the gazelles, black antelopes, peacocks and pigeons living around the sacred temples. India, 2007



BEAUTY

Prabhat Nego (10 years old) is a young novice from the Bhogpur Satra monastery, on the island of Majuli. The monks are dressed in white and are androgynous. The monastery is very famous for its traditional songs and dances. Assam, India, 2013



RESPECT

Susila Bishnoi in traditional dress at her sister's wedding. Bishnoi women are much more respected than in other castes and have benefited from maternity leave since 1485 AD. Rajasthan, India, 2007



COURAGE

Fusha Ram Bishnoi is both sad and proud of his son Ganga Ram, who gave his life to save a gazelle from poachers in 2000. He died in 2021, at the age of 104. This image has become an icon for the Bishnois. India, 2007



THE HERO

Majuli, on the Brahmaputra, Jadav Payeng planted in 35 years what will become a 570 ha forest housing rhinos, tigers and even elephants. India, 2013



A MYTHICAL RIVER

Sunset over the Colorado River at the end of the Grand Canyon, Arizona. According to scientific studies, it took the Colorado River more than 20 million years to shape the Grand Canyon. United States, 2015



LONGEVITY

Alice Peck, 100 years old, with part of her collection of dolls from around the world. All her life, she collected and restored them. She still lives alone in her family-owned Peck's Lake home. United States, 2015



FULLNESS

View of the Danube from Golubac Fortress. Serbia, 2019



THE CHALLENGE

The Royal Livingstone Express is a luxury steam train from Livingstone to Victoria Falls. This Eiffel-style bridge was completed in 1905 by the Cleveland Bridge Company and Frenchman Georges Imbault. Zambia, 2018



PERSEVERANCE

This little hooked pine fancies itself a venerable bonsai, clinging to its limestone rock. Haute-Savoie, France, 2022