PRESS KIT



NOW

A film for Climate Justice by Jim Rakete

» NOW by Jim Rakete gives hope for improvement. We can do it differently! « Stern

> » NOW shines a ray of hope on a complex subject « Sarah Ward, Goethe Institut Australia

» Jim Rakete's documentary NOW is both a celebration of inspirational young climate activists and an informative rallying call for change. « Orla Smith, Seventh Row

» The attraction of NOW is the young people who do not give up hope! « arte Twist

» An inspiring film that reminds young and old that there is only one planet. « Vegan World

Production Company:

Starhaus Produktionen GmbH www.starhaus.de

World Sales:

The Party Film Sales https://www.thepartysales.com/movie/now/

FILM INFO

Type of film:	Documentary
Country of production:	Germany
Year of production:	2020
Running time:	73' & 52', colour
Aspect ratio:	16:9 (1,78:1)
Language:	English, German

CREW

Director:	Jim Rakete
Idea & Screenwriting:	Claudia Rinke
Producer:	Rainer Kölmel
Creative Producer:	Nina Spilger
Associate Producer:	Wasiliki Bleser
Director of Phography:	Philip Koepsell
Editor:	Kjell Peterson
Music:	Nils Strunk
Sound:	Zora Butzke
Sound Design & Mix:	Clemens Becker

PROTAGONISTS

Vic Barrett	Youth v. Gov
Felix Finkbeiner	Plant for the Planet
Marcella Hansch	Pacific Garbage Screening (now: everwave)
Zion Lights	Extinction Rebellion
Nike Mahlhaus	Ende Gelände
Luisa Neubauer	Fridays for Future Germany
Greta Thunberg	Fridays for Future
Patti Smith	Rock Poet & Activist
Wim Wenders	Film Director
Heiko Maas	Foreign Minister, Germany
Muhammad Yunus	Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Founder of Grameen Bank
Dr. Parag Khanna	Global Analyst
Dr. Jason Hickel	Economic Anthropologist
Marc Buckley	Climate Activist & Global Food Reformist

ABOUT THE FILM



LOGLINE

NOW shows how young activists from around the globe such as **Felix Finkbeiner** (Plant for the Planet), **Luisa Neubauer**, **Greta Thunberg** (Fridays for Future) and **Vic Barrett** (Youth v. Gov) are currently challenging the status quo and pushing for social and political change.

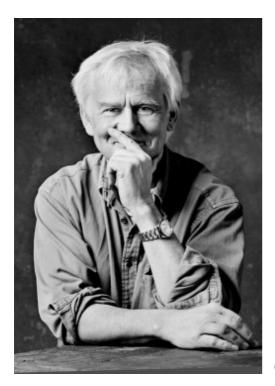
SYNOPSIS

From Greta Thunberg to the Extinction Rebellion. For the young activists the rebellion is both a means and an end in the struggle for the climate of the future.

School strikes, demonstrations and civil disobedience. The new wave of young activists, who are spearheaded by Greta Thunberg, have taken to the streets all over the world. They use everything they can to awaken the politicians and the rest of the population to the climate change that will shape their future. NOW is a film about the drive of the young activists, their fear of climate change and their willingness to find new and alternative ways to live in a sustainable future. Hardened activists such as the Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus and the iconic rock poet Patti Smith contribute with decades of experience in working for change - now!

(CPH:DOX)

DIRECTOR - JIM RAKETE



© Katrin Kutter

Jim Rakete is a German photographer, photojournalist, filmmaker, writer and producer based in Berlin.

Rakete took portrait photographs of numerous personalities from the German and international music and film scene and politics. His managerial work behind awardwinning musical acts includes Nina Hagen Band, Interzone, Nena and Die Ärzte. This made Jim Rakete a decisive figure in the burgeoning German New Wave. Rakete had extended living and production periods in Los Angeles and Hamburg before he returned to Berlin in 2001, where he continues to work in film, photography, writing, theatre, music, and production.

Filmography:

2021 "SCHWESTER.VON", Feature Film
2020 "NOW", Documentary
2017 "A MIND ON STRIKE– John Nash revisited", Short Documentary
2016 "RETURN TO MONTAUK: Behind the Scenes", Making Of
2016 "SQUARE ARTISTE– Carte Blanche für Jim Rakete", TV Documentary

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

JIM RAKETE ON HIS DOCUMENTARY "NOW"

» There is actually no classic direction in a documentary. Rather, one looks for the attitude that is appropriate to the subject. Often you run after the events with the camera, and sometimes you are a small step ahead, which means that you are on the right track.

The story originally sketched by Claudia Rinke was often re-discussed during shooting, without ever changing the core of the narrative. A documentary about current events can never be completely planned through. The dynamic in this case is precisely the fact that the activists' calendars are overflowing. Anyone seeking a conversation with Greta today has to bring a lot of time with them. We never had this on the shooting schedule. Greta Thunberg makes the best statements in her speeches, not in interviews.

Hajo Friedrichs once said that a journalist should never get involved with anything – not even a good thing. We have therefore kept a respectful distance, and from all the answers we have chosen the most promising and hopeful for the film. What we did not want to tell was the personal circumstances of the activists. The focus is on the hopes, solutions and setbacks for the activists.

On the other hand, there are the scientific statements, and also those of two veterans of earlier movements (Patti Smith & Wim Wenders), because this question also came up again and again: how long can a movement last, when does it fall asleep? If someone had told me a few years ago that I would run with the camera at demonstrations again, I would probably have smiled reservedly. Because that's exactly how my profession as a photographer once began more than fifty years ago – with photos of the 68 riots in Berlin. «

SCREENWRITER – CLAUDIA RINKE



© Mel Bollag

Claudia Rinke is a border crosser. She holds a doctorate in law and has worked for major international law firms and the United Nations on four continents. She incorporates these experiences into her work as an author. She has written an internationally successful non-fiction book, published by C.H. Beck, and a youth novel about online radicalisation. The film rights to the novel "The Bride" have been acquired by a German production company.

Claudia had the idea for "NOW". Not least because of her international activities, she has long been aware of how big the global challenges will be for the young generation. During the development phase of the film, there were increasing signs that a new and large youth movement could emerge. Jim Rakete joined as director and the project was literally developed further in the course of time. Claudia and Jim had been with the young activists since the first climate demonstrations in Berlin and accompanied them to the White House in Washington and to the United Nations in New York. In this way, the film has developed into an important contemporary witness. It documents how a determined young generation made history within a year and changed the course of the world for the better.

Claudia Rinke lives in Hamburg.

PRODUCTION COMPANY – STARHAUS PRODUKTIONEN

Starhaus Produktionen GmbH was founded in 1999 by Rainer Kölmel with the aim of creating a home for creative people. Since 2003 Starhaus Produktionen GmbH has held a stake in Starhaus Filmproduktion GmbH (formerly Kinowelt Filmproduktion). Starhaus Produktionen is not only active in the field of film production, but also supports various ambitious artistic projects. In the cinematic field, it has been involved in recent years in projects with a particularly artistic and socio-political claim, which can also inspire the general public.

Among the films produced and co-produced by Starhaus Produktionen are Olaf Kraemer's debut "5 Women" (2016), Hans Weingärtner's successful road movie "303" (2018), Ece Ger's moving portrait of Jim Haynes, an icon of the Roaring Sixties, "Meeting Jim" (2018) and most recently the committed documentary "NOW" by Jim Rakete about the environmental activists of our time (2020).



ACTIVISTS

YOUTH V. GOV (OUR CHILDREN'S TRUST) - VIC BARRETT



"For me, climate change is a reality. A reality that is already impacting my life." Vic belongs to a group of more than 20 teenagers who are suing the US federal government ("Juliana v. United States"). They accuse the government of violating their fundamental rights to life, liberty and property by supporting fossil fuels that promote climate change. The case attracted a lot of attention, as the

Constitution has never been used to tackle climate change. Vic spoke to the United Nations about the process and the major problem of climate change. He studies political and environmental sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

PLANT FOR THE PLANET - FELIX FINKBEINER



"Stop talking. Start planting!" At the age of 9, Felix founded the NGO "Plant for the Planet". He was looking for a solution to the problems of climate change. Originally from a small village near Munich, the 22year-old has been doing his doctorate in the Department of Environmental Systems Sciences at ETH Zurich since September 2018. "Plant for the Planet" has become a worldwide

youth movement that has already planted more than 15 billion seedlings and turned some 7,000 children into climate ambassadors.

PACIFIC GARBAGE SCREENING (now: EVERWAVE) - MARCELLA HANSCH



"All of us can do something." Marcella is an architect and founder of "everwave" (formerly known as "Pacific Garbage Screening"). The concept was the subject of her master's thesis in architecture. While diving during a holiday she became aware of the mass of plastic in our oceans and decided to do something about it. Marcella and her research team (consisting of various scientists

from biology, civil engineering, geography, waste management and process engineering) are working on a specially designed platform floating in the water, which filters plastic particles out of the water.



EXTINCTION REBELLION - ZION LIGHTS

"Going out into the streets to make a difference, just like our forebears." Zion is a British author and activist, known for her work in environmental and science communication. She wrote the evidence-based, non-fictional book "The Ultimate Guide to Green Parenting" and has a Master of Science in Science Communication from the University of the West of England (UWE). Zion is a UK

spokesperson for the non-violent global movement Extinction Rebellion (XR) and editorin-chief of the ER newspaper "The Hourglass", which has been in existence since September 2019. She protests to raise awareness of climate change and believes that only high levels of civil disobedience can bring about the change needed.

ENDE GELÄNDE - NIKE MAHLHAUS



"System change not climate change!" Nike studies social sciences in Berlin. The 25-year-old is a spokeswoman for the anti-coal movement "Ende Gelände". Since 2015, "Ende Gelände" has persuaded thousands of people to occupy coalmines in Germany and hold out there. Since July 2019, the campaign has included 59 local groups fighting with civil disobedience for climate justice and against the climate crisis. The movement

calls for an immediate coal phase-out and a decisive socio-ecological and systemic change away from capitalism.

FRIDAYS FOR FUTURE - LUISA NEUBAUER



"We must act now!"

Luisa is a German climate protection activist. The 22-year-old is one of the main organisers of the Greta Thunberg inspired school strike movement "Fridays for Future" in Germany. She supports the implementation of Agenda 2030 in Germany and a climate policy that adheres to the Paris Accord. Luisa is a member of the Green Party and Green Youth. She also is a member of numerous

organisations fighting for climate protection, generational justice and against global poverty.

FESTIVALS

Thessaloniki International Documentary Festival
– Official Selection 2020

CPH:DOX – Official Selection 2020

Beat Film Festival, Moscow - Alexander Gorbatschow's curated program "Contrary" 2020

Docs Against Gravity Film Festival, Warsaw - Official Selection 2020

European Film Festival Palic, Serbia - Official Selection 2020

Festival Atmosphères, Paris – Opening Film 2020

Raindance Film Festival, London - Official Selection 2020

Festival dei Popoli, Italy - Official Selection 2020

Leffest Lisbon - Official Selection 2020

Giffoni Film Festival, Italy - Official Selection 2020

Transition Film Festival, Australia - Official Selection 2021

Trento Film Festival - Official Selection 2021

CONTACTS

World Sales

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Production Company

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