

Magneto Presse in co-production with Fatalitas Productions
present

PORNOCRACY

A Film by Ovidie



France / 2017 / 77 min / Color / French and English with English Subtitles

World Premiere

2017 SXSW International Film Festival, Documentary Spotlight

Screenings:

Sunday, March 12, 1:30pm, Vimeo Theatre (World Premiere)

Monday, March 13, 9:30pm, Alamo Lamar B

Wednesday, March 15, 9:30pm, Stateside Theatre

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LOGLINE

French feminist icon, filmmaker, and adult film director Ovidie investigates shocking modern changes in the international adult film industry, and how a group of programmers hijacked the adult industry to create a mysterious multinational corporation that virtually controls the entire adult industry worldwide.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

French feminist icon, filmmaker, and adult film director Ovidie investigates shocking modern changes in the international adult film industry, and how the arrival of web sites showing amateur and pirated clips has transformed the way porn is made and consumed. In her investigation, she exposes how a group of programmers hijacked the adult industry to create a mysterious multinational corporation that virtually controls the entire adult industry worldwide.

PRINCIPAL FILMMAKERS & CAST

Director: Ovidie

Cinematographers: Ovidie, Franck Rabel, with Lars Skree

Executive Producer: Barbara Conforti

Producer: Marc Berdugo, Elfriede Leca, Serge Khalfon, Jérôme Pierrat.

Editor: Frédérique Oger

Music: Geoffroy Delacroix

FILMMAKER Q&A

Q&A with Jason Whyte / efilmcritic and Ovidie, director of 'Pornocracy'

What makes your film one to watch out for at SXSW?

Never before have we watched as much porn as we do today, yet the traditional porn industry is dying. The arrival of 'Tube' sites showing amateur or pirated clips has transformed the way porn is made and consumed. Studios are closing and actresses are forced to shoot increasingly hardcore scenes for less and less money and protections.

Behind this transformation lies one opaque multinational. My film reveals how a group of 'geeks' with no experience in pornography have hijacked the adult industry and are slowly killing it with their business model and their controversial financial structures.

So how did you get into this business? Talk to me a bit about how you got your start and what you have worked on in the past.

I have taken quite a unique path. I knew from a very young age that I wanted to be a director, and the first opportunity that presented itself to me was porn. From the age of 19, I filmed feminist erotic films for the French channel Canal+ , at first in parallel with my studies. Throughout several years, I made over a dozen films, as well as sexual education programs, all while developing myself professionally as a journalist and researcher. While being immersed in the field of pornography and erotica, I worked for various publications, publishers and radio stations, all while continuing to pursue my studies until I finished my dissertation. It wasn't until I turned 30 that I got the possibility to make my entry into the documentary world - when I directed two films for the French National Channel France 2 and then finally in directing PORNOCRACY. My primary areas of interest, be they in porn, documentary film or even my academic work - is women, feminism and body politics.

How did this project come together for you?

The idea behind this project came by accident. One day, completely by chance, I discovered that when typing my name into Google that certain pirated videos featuring me in them were on 'Tube' sites, and it was impossible to get them taken off. Some of the videos were from films I performed in towards the end of the 90's, films that only had a few hundred copies made- they had now suddenly resurfaced and been seen by upwards of several million people. This had an immediate impact on my life at the time...

From that moment onwards I began to get informed, to collect information about these sites, by simple curiosity and without a precise goal. After about three or four years, what began as a small personal inquiry became an international investigation. We told ourselves that there was an unbelievable film we needed to make on the subject.

What keeps you going while making a movie? What drives you?

One day I found a folder of my primary school work. The teacher had written “detests injustice” about me on my school report. I think that this remains as my driving force, even as an adult.

What was your biggest challenge with this project, and the moment that was the most rewarding to you?

My biggest satisfaction has been receiving congratulatory messages and messages of thanks from the people appearing in the film.

It is important to me that these people who agreed to participate in the film, who have given me their time and their energy, sometimes for multiple days, and who have, for some, taken the risk of speaking on camera without their face uncovered- even with all the risks that come with doing so, are satisfied with the final result.

I would love to know about the visual design of the movie; what camera did you film with, your relationship to the director of photography and how the movie was photographed.

We have alternated between mostly fixed shots and immersive scenes shot by onboard camera. We have developed a habit of framing scenes with two cameras in an immersive sequence. Generally speaking, I prefer to frame the shots myself, but as I often appeared in this film, it was indispensable to find a director of photography that I could have confidence in, in that they would perfectly understand the way I usually shoot.

In terms of inspiration, I really like the aesthetic of Scandinavian cinema, and in terms of music I am a big fan of films by John Carpenter.

This film highlights a set of international issues. I hope that it will begin the debate in Austin and I hope in the U.S. in general.

If you could show your movie in any theater outside of Austin, where would you screen it and why?

I want to have it screened at the European Parliament and at the White House. And in a broader sense, in the offices of all of the politicians on Earth. My film exposes the industry, and now it is their turn to take action.

FILMMAKER BIOGRAPHY

Ovidie, is an author, filmmaker, and adult film director. She spent much of her adolescence as a militant member of ultra-left wing groups and after studying philosophy, she chose at age 18, to direct movies depicting a sexuality that was both realistic and ethical. Her films developed a concept of feminist pornography based on her belief that she did not want to leave pornography purely in the hands of men.

In 2011 Ovidie changed genres and produced a documentary for France 2 TV called 'Rhabillage' ('Re-dressing'), produced by Jean-Jacques Beineix (Cargo Films), and then in 2015, "A quoi revent les jeunes filles?" ('What do young girls dream of?').

Today, Ovidie is a filmmaker and journalist and the author of a dozen books, including Porno Manifesto (2002), a vivid denunciation of the preconceived ideas about the pornographic film industry, a book which led to her nickname of "feminist porn intellectual".

KEY CAST

- Ovidie – Pornocracy Director
- Pierre Woodman - Producer/Director
- Alina and Juliana - Former Actresses
- Rocco Siffredi - Producer/Director
- Mario Salieri - Director/Producer
- Vincent Gresser - Producer
- Gregory Dorcel - Chief Executive of Marc Dorcel
- J-T - Youporn Founder
- Lars Marten Nagel - Journalist for 'Die Welt' Newspaper
- Dirty Tina - Performer
- Frank - Husband and Associate
- Stoya - Actress & Producer
- Roy Klabin - Journalist
- Nate Glass – from Takedown Piracy - Anti Piracy Agency
- Tara Patrick and Ron Jeremy - from Advertising Campaign against 'Measure B'?
- Mike South - Director & Blogger
- Marton Fulop - COO Live Jasmin
- Natali - Camgirl
- Adrian Florin - Manager Live Cams Mansion
- Arianna - Camgirl
- Domina - Camgirl

FILM INFORMATION

Year: 2017
Premiere Status: SXSW World Premiere, Documentary Spotlight
Genre: Documentary
Country: France
Language: French and English with English Subtitles
Runtime: 77 minutes
Production Companies: Magneto Presse in co-production with Fatalitas Productions

PRODUCTION CREDITS

START CREDITS

CANAL + DOCUMENTARY CREATION

MAGNETO PRESSE

In coproduction with FATALITAS PRODUCTIONS

With the participation of CANAL+

A film by Ovidie

PORNOCRACY

END CREDITS

Pornocracy

A film by

Ovidie

Editing

Frédérique Oger

Filming

Ovidie

Franck Rabel

With Lars Skree

Executive Producer

Barbara Conforti

Animation

Le Groupuscule

Christophe Dias

Assisted by

Sandrine Belmont

Florent Cornier

Guillaume Boczkow

Graphics

Julie Lemagny

Laura Gonny

Archives

Samantha Baugard

Color Grading

Sasha Savic

Mixing

Bruno Lagoarde & Matthieu Cochin (POM'ZED)

Voice-over

Thomas Prioli

Anne-Sophie Nallino

Damien Cochereau

Geneviève Doang

Antoine Fleury

Olivier Peigne

Olivier Angele

Alexandre Cros

Marie-Christine Letort

Patrick Béthune

Valérie Levy

Alexandra Gosset

Original music composed and interpreted by

Geoffroy Delacroix

Director of Production

Frédérique Pittau

Production Manager

Sofiann Fakhsi

Investigation

Matteo Fagotto

Lutz Bergmann

Julie Lotz

Laurianne Croteau

Translation

Thomas Herth

Lucas Heimberger

Maria Bitot

Maria Emanovskaya

Noémie Oxley

Chief Accountant

Yekta Ardelan

Production Accountant

Boris Oslisly

Director of Post-Production

Isabelle Bocquet

Operations Manager

Denis Waldburger

Assisted by

Daphné Haussely

Amandine Normand

Laurène Marchall

Archives Credits

Noah Advisors

Oxford Union
PornHub
Europe Pirate Summit

Special Thanks

Johanne Faucher, Claudine Blais, Florian Flade, Tancrède Ramonet, Florence.
Corentin Chrétien
Frédéric Martin

With the participation of CANAL+

Documentary Managers

Diego Buñuel
Françoise Feuillye
Philippe de Bourbon

Head of Negotiations

Florence Knapik

Communication

Pascal Aznar
Aude Boussarie

Distribution

Java Films

With the support of the
Centre national du cinéma et de l'image animée

Producers

Marc Berdugo
Elfriede LecaSerge Khalfon
Jérôme Pierrat

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