-THE CLIMATE CHANGERS -

A film about civil society engagement
during the historic climate conference in Paris | December 2015

Synopsis short
«The Climate Changers» is a short documentary about civil society engagement during
the historic climate conference (COP 21) in Paris in December 2015. Journalist Samuel
Schlaefli and filmmaker Esther Petsche joined activists and visited them in their ateliers,
in cultural centres, hostels and on the streets to document their fight for climate justice.

Synopsis long:
«The Climate Changers» is a short documentary about civil society engagement during
the historic climate conference (COP 21) in Paris in December 2015. Journalist Samuel
Schlaefli and filmmaker Esther Petsche joined activists and visited them in their ateliers,
in cultural centres, hostels and on the streets to document their fight for climate justice.
They met with climate disaster victims, youth delegates from Africa and China, indi-
genous people, street performers from Sweden and anti fracking campaigners from the
US. They attended panels with the author and activist Naomi Klein, met with ex chief
climate negotiator of the Philippines, Jeb Sano, and elaborated the role of the arts in
creating an alternative narrative to an unsustainable lifestyle with artist and initiator of
«ArtCOP21» David Buckland. The film culminates in the «red lines» climate march on
12.12.2015 near the Tour d’Eiffel with thousands of participants. The mobilisation in Paris
showed: The fight against climate change has evolved into a full grown global grassroots
movement that unites people with all kinds of different backgrounds and motivations.
No longer are those global citizens willing to wait for solutions by their national leaders.
They take the streets to promote their vision of a more just, a more peaceful and sustain-
able world.

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INFO

Produced and directed by
Samuel Schlaefli and Esther Petsche

Written by
Samuel Schlaefli

Filmed and edited by
Esther Petsche

Music by
Visions of Plenty by Ken Verrecke
Throw in the Trowel by Hawes

Camera
iPhone 6s

Film Type
Documentary | Feature | Web | New Media

Runtime
47 minutes 53 seconds

Completion Date
May 1 | 2016

Country of Origin
Switzerland

Country of Filming
France

Film Language
English

Aspect Ratio
16:9

Film Color
Color

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The Climate Changers

BIO

Samuel Schlaefli (1979) works as a freelance journalist in Switzerland. He has studied journalism and sociology in Basel, Winterthur, Hamburg and La Réunion. He has over 10 years of experience in working for newspapers, magazines and online media. As a freelance journalist he has focused on environmental and social topics as well as on urban development. He has worked for GEO, Greenpeace, ETH Zürich, TagesWoche, OurWorld 2.0, Globetrotter and Transhelvetica. He has reported from Switzerland, France, the Indian Ocean, Ethiopia, South Africa, USA and the Middle East.

Esther Petsche (1973) works as a freelance graphic designer and filmmaker in Switzerland. After studying fashion design at the academy of arts in Bremen she worked as an costume assistant at the Zurich Opera under the guidance of Robert Wilson. As a cultural manager for the «Unternehmen Mitte», a cultural space in the heart of Basel, she was responsible for the design and production of exhibitions, lectures and the overall public image of the house. During her 9 years as the responsible for the program, Esther and Samuel have collaborated several times for exhibitions and presentations at «Unternehmen Mitte». Nowadays Esther focuses on cutting, producing and directing films on environment and nature.

CONTACT

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