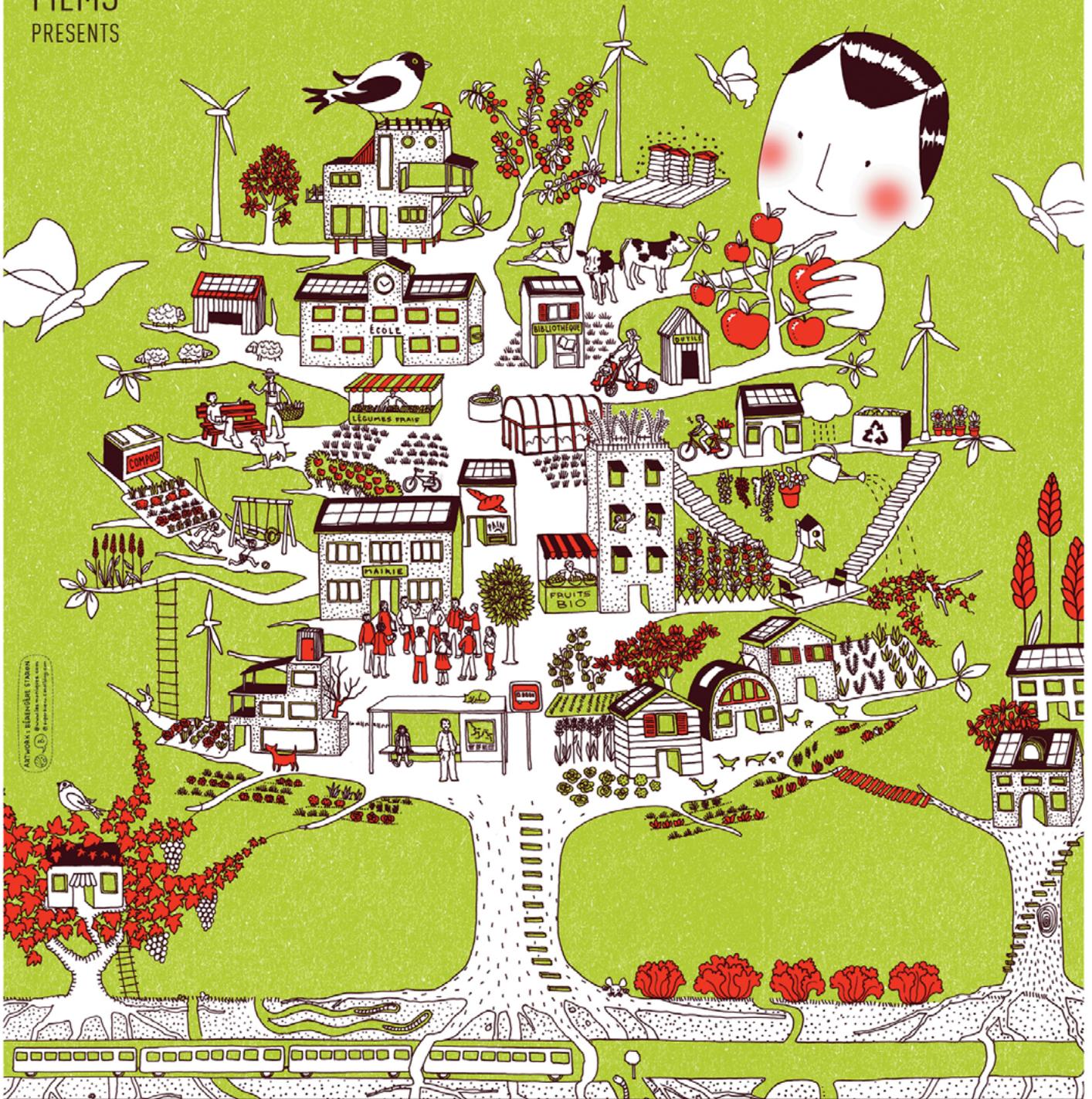


MILPA  
FILMS  
PRESENTS



© 2013 Milpa Films  
www.milpafilms.com

# VOICES OF TRANSITION

A DOCUMENTARY "ACTION" MOVIE FOR COMMUNITY-LED FOOD PRODUCTION

**PRESS KIT "VOICES OF TRANSITION"**

NOW on DVD!

Look for „Voices of Transition“ on:



YouTube

**VOICES OF TRANSITION**



@filmtransition

# VOICES OF TRANSITION

A FILM BY NILS AGUILAR



**Voices of Transition** (65 minutes, France/Germany 2012), directed by German-French filmmaker **Nils Aguilar**, explores exciting examples of socio-ecological change in France, England and Cuba.

How can we feed ourselves in the future? What alternatives are there to industrial agriculture? How can we make the transition to a re-localised, truly resilient economic system?



**Documentary**, 65/52 minutes, France/Germany, 2012

**Director and producer:** Nils Aguilar / Milpafilms

**Subtitle tracks:** English, German, Spanish, Catalan, Portuguese, Italian, Dutch, Swedish, Polish, Croatian, Romanian, Turkish, Chinese, Korean, Czech, Mandarin, Japanese

**Available as:** DCP, DVD, Blu-Ray

## PRESS CONTACTS

press@voicesoftransition.org  
(+49) 030 - 577 044 751

### Production/ distribution

Milpafilms: info@milpafilms.org  
(+49) 0178 - 8180232

# VOICES OF TRANSITION

A FILM BY NILS AGUILAR

## CONTENT

Global environmental trends - climate change, peak oil and food insecurity - are forcing us to confront the inherent contradictions of our industrial agricultural system.

**Voices of Transition** presents paths towards a new model of human existence: one which is fair, environmentally sound and fulfilling, with soil and people supporting each other within a balanced and sustainable system.

Powered by the conviction that these crisis can be a major catalyst for positive change, this inspiring documentary casts a spotlight on a new global movement. We meet scientists, agronomists, permaculture designers and pioneers of the “Transition Town” movement. These voices take us on a cinematic tour of France, England and Cuba - to communities already making the transition to local resilience.

**France** is a leader in **agroforestry** research. The natural forest ecosystem is the best source of inspiration for our shift away from destructive monocultural farming, towards a diversified and truly efficient agricultural system.

In the **UK**, the **Transition Town** movement is booming. Its many grassroots initiatives are developing radical new models of sustainable living: bringing food production into the city, encouraging energy and resource-conscious decision making and localising previously centralised activities. In short, they're preparing for crisis conditions.

Like most of the world, **Cuba** was once heavily dependent on oil for its agricultural production. Then, in 1991, the collapse of the Soviet Union meant the country was suddenly faced with a premature peak oil crisis. But this apparently

desperate situation has grown into something truly inspirational. The Caribbean island has become a pioneer of **agroecology** and **urban farming**. 70% of all of the fruits and vegetables eaten in Havana are now produced right inside the city - and they're totally organic.



Find out more about the film: **VOICES OF TRANSITION** @filmtransition



# VOICES OF TRANSITION

A FILM BY NILS AGUILAR

## THE PROJECT

**Voices of Transition** is an independent, participatory documentary film project with the ambitious goal of inspiring each and every one of its viewers to join a worldwide social and environmental movement. It is an “action film” in the truest sense of the word: instead of sitting back and passively watching, viewers are inspired to get up, join in and contribute to the transformation of our society.

## THE FILMMAKER

Nils Aguilar is a French-German documentary filmmaker. A trained sociologist, he has long been conscious of the need for the kind of societal transformation depicted in his film. Direct experience of the problems of soil erosion and land-grabbing in the Global South reinforced Nils’ aim: to use documentary film to reach as many people as possible - and to inspire them to take action.



Voices of Transition is the result of four years of dedicated work. It was researched, shot and edited alongside Nils’ studies towards a degree in Sociology and Philosophy. A combination of two grants, a global network of volunteers and money raised through crowd-funding has allowed this project to be realised.

## SCREENINGS

In cooperation with the Heinrich Böll Foundation, a series of film screenings and discussions was held from February to the end of April, 2013 in all across Germany. Director Nils Aguilar was present at every event, and Rob Hopkins - co-founder of the Transition Towns movement - joined him at a number of screenings. Public interest was immense: 12 of the 16 screenings were sold out. Voices of Transition has been screened over 1000 times, all over Europe and beyond.



# VOICES OF TRANSITION

A FILM BY NILS AGUILAR

## CRITICAL RECEPTION

**This precious film... is about shaping the future here and now. With our tiny steps and collective solidarity, we will make sure the Tree of Life flourishes and grows!**  
**Vandana Shiva, activist and winner of the Right Livelihood Award**



*Voices of Transition educates, opens minds to new possibilities and presents a new vision of how our food system could be. As a historic transition unfolds, this film is a very powerful tool.*  
**Phd Rob Hopkins, co-founder of the Transition movement**

*This film shows that we can transition to a new world - there's a way, provided we summon the will!*  
**Bill McKibben, author and founder of 350.org**



**A masterpiece!**  
*Fascinating in both content and delivery.*  
**Prof. Uwe Schneidewind, Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy**

*I'm more excited about this film than any of the others in this area. I've already seen it five times - more than Blade Runner and High Noon!*  
**Prof. Niko Paech, economist and author of "Liberation from Excess"**



**Extremely precious**  
*for our educational work*  
**Hubert Weiger, president of Friends of the Earth Germany**

**This film was overdue!**  
*It poses that crucial question: in what kind of a world do we want to live?*  
**Sarah Wiener, TV chef and food writer**



# VOICES OF TRANSITION

A FILM BY NILS AGUILAR

## THE CAST (A SELECTION)



**Rob Hopkins PhD** (GB): Co-founder, Transition movement



**Dr Claude Bourguignon** (F): Microbiologist, LAMS



**Prof. Fernando Funes** (Cu): Agro-ecologist



**Rachel Bibb** (GB): Bristol Food Hub



**Martin Crawford** (GB): Agroforestry expert



**Mike Feingold** (GB): Permaculture expert



**Prof. Christian Dupraz** (F): Agronomist & agroforestry expert, INRA



**Sally Jenkins** (GB): Educator, G.R.O.F.U.N. project

# VOICES OF TRANSITION

A FILM BY NILS AGUILAR

## THE KEY: LOCAL RESILIENCE

Collective resilience, built through local actions: this is the key to building a food system which can cope with adverse conditions and absorb shocks. From windowbox gardening to large-scale agriculture, Voices of Transition presents concrete ways towards developing this resilience.

Local food production is a crucial pillar of change, but Voices of Transition acknowledges that other aspects of our lifestyles must also be radically transformed. The keystones are decentralisation, diversity, cooperation and the sharing of knowledge. It's vitally important that we not only change our lifestyles, but also realign

**Leigh Court Farm:**  
Community-supported agriculture near Bristol, England



our values. Only if this paradigm shift occurs will cooperative exchange, the sharing of resources and mutual support become the norm - with our quality of life steadily improving as a result.



*We can choose where to invest our energy: whether we campaign against something which is in demise, or whether we focus our energy on building systems that we will need here, so that we can step off and on to another system.*

**Rob Hopkins, co-founder of the Transition movement**

# VOICES OF TRANSITION

A FILM BY NILS AGUILAR

## IMPRESSIONS



*If trucks suddenly stopped running, supermarket shelves would be empty after just three days.*

**Ira Flatow, science journalist**

*Continual growth is not the solution. We're forced to invest millions in machinery when we could, instead, create employment on the land!*

**Forey, farmer in Burgundy, France**



*We have allowed ourselves to be told that we cannot live without chemicals. We have to bring an end to this way of thinking.*

**Samura Torres, engineer in Havana**

*Maximizing profits... Growing with Prosaro, it's like growing money!*

**Advertisement for fungicide, Bayer Chemicals**



*Just three acerola berries is enough to cover your daily requirement of vitamin C.*

**Espinosa, urban gardener in Havana**

# VOICES OF TRANSITION

A FILM BY NILS AGUILAR

## PRESS REVIEWS



*A lot more convincing than every theoretical lecture.*

**Weekly German Newspaper "der Freitag", Januar 2014**

*Only watching the film was impossible.*  
**German Newspaper "Schwäbisches Tagblatt", 14.12.2012**



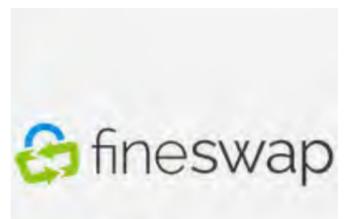
*One of the "top food films to make you think"*

**Sustainable Food Trust**



*Voices of Transition (...) leaves you with raised awareness, an urge to be a part of the change and with practical ideas that you can start implementing immediately.*

**fineswap.com**



*...a ray of hope.*

**Jean-Paul LaCount, The Chic Ecologist**



*From traditional mixed farming techniques in France, to agroforestry and community action in the UK, the film provides many tangible and sustainable alternatives.*

**Village Green Magazine**

