

NORBERT GREGOR SUCHANEK

Biography

Norbert Suchanek was born in 1963 in Würzburg in Germany. He is an investigative environmental, human rights, and science journalist, author, photographer, award-winning documentary filmmaker and poet. Since 2006 he lives as foreign correspondent and filmmaker in Rio de Janeiro.

After studying technical chemistry, military service and working for a pharmaceutical company in Munich and Houston Texas, he began his journalistic career in 1987 by hitchhiking seven months across Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, and French Guiana. One of his first published reports dealt with rainforest destruction in the Brazilian Amazon, which remains one of his main focuses.

Later, he researched the conflict regions of Northern Ireland, Palestine, and West Papua/ Papua New Guinea and worked part-time for NGOs such as Greenpeace, focusing on ecology, preserving the rainforest, and indigenous peoples. During this time in the 1990s, he became friends with the ethnobotanist and indigenous rights activist Darrell Addison Posey and worked with him on several reports in German publications.

Over the past nearly 40 years of his work, Norbert's articles, reports and photos have appeared in dozens of newspapers, magazines, and other media outlets in German, English, Portuguese, and Spanish. His investigative reports and books influenced scholars, students, and activists. The seven short documentaries he produced up to 2020 have been selected by over 20 international film festivals and won four international awards. In addition, his award-winning early poems were published in the book „Erinnerung an Licht“.

Together with social scientist Márcia Gomes de Oliveira, he founded the International Uranium Film Festival (IUFF) in 2010, which was held for the first time in Rio de Janeiro in May, 2011. To date, they have organized over 80 international uranium film festivals in nine countries, including Brazil, Germany, India, Portugal, and the USA. In October 2024, MovieMaker Magazine in Hollywood selected the IUFF as one of the "25 Coolest Film Festivals in the World 2024." And in March 2025, Norbert and Márcia accepted the Nuclear-Free Future Award in New York City.

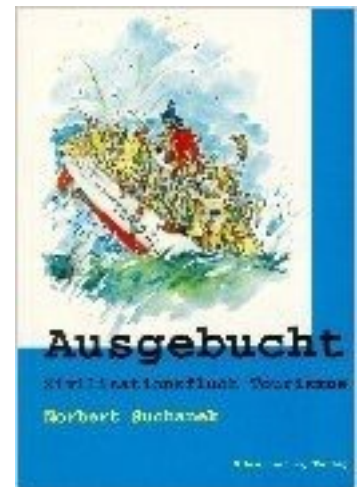


Books

Ausgebucht. Zivilisationsfluch Tourismus - Book about the dark sides of tourism. Schmetterling Verlag, Stuttgart 2000

Mythos Wildnis - Book about the ideology of wilderness and nature conservation. Schmetterling Verlag, Stuttgart, 2001

Zurück zum Geschmack - Book about food, good taste, and ecology. Editor Norbert Suchanek, Hrsg. von Ernst-Ulrich Schassberger. Hirzel Verlag, Stuttgart, Leipzig, 2004.



Erinnerung an Licht - Award-winning poems about ecology, peace, and war. Engelsdorfer Verlag, Leipzig, 2005

Der Soja-Wahn - Book about history and consequences of soy plantations world wide. Oekom verlag München, 2010

Dossiers

Das Flüchtlingslager im Regenwald Papua-Neuguineas - Report about West-Papua refugees living in the East Awin refugee camp in PNG. Dossier, Pazifi kinformationsstelle, January 1993

Alternativen zur Abholzung: Sanfte Regenwaldnutzung kann größere Gewinne erzielen - Dossier about the sustainable use of plant based rainforest resources. Pazifi kinformationsstelle, 1995/96

Argentinien im Soja-Fieber - Dossier about history and consequences of soy plantations in Argentina. Forum Umwelt & Entwicklung / Deutscher Naturschutzring (DNR), Berlin/Rio de Janeiro, April 2013

Documentary Movies (alphabetical)

CHEESE INSTEAD OF URANIUM

Official Selection

Italia Green Film Festival, Roma, Italy, 2019,
Prime Documentaries Monthly Screening, India, 2019
Tulum World Environment Film Festival, Tulum,
Quintana Roo, Mexico, 2022
Bozcaada International Festival of Ecological
Documentary (BIFED), Bozcaada Belediyesi, Turkey,
2022

Finalist Best Documentary Short

Onyko Films Awards, Odessa, Ukraine, 2022



MAMANGUA - DE ONDE VOCÊ É

Official Selection

Native Spirit Festival, London, United Kingdom, 2008
XVII International Festival of Ethnological Film, Belgrade, Serbia, 2008
Rome International Film Festival (RIFF), Rome, Italy, 2011

THE CHIEF'S PROPHECY

Official Selection

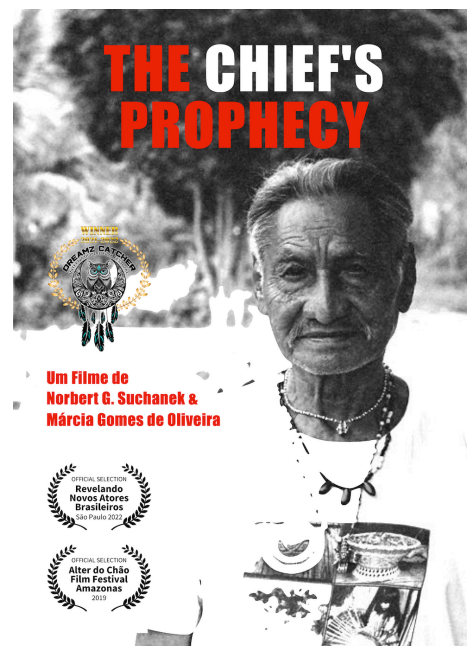
Festival Revelando Novos Atores Brasileiros (RNAB),
Sao Paulo, Brazil, 2022
Festival de Cinema de Alter do Chão, Santarém, Pará,
Brazil, 2019

Best Short Film

Dreamz Catcher International Film Festival, Kolkata,
West Bengal, India, 2022

Environment Conservation Award

Tulum World Environment Film Festival, Tulum,
Quintana Roo, Mexico, 2022



THE DEPLETED URANIUM QUESTION

Official Selection

Rome International Film Festival (RIFF), Rome, Italy, 2018,
Feel The Reel International Film Festival Glasgow, Scotland, 2018,
Hollywood Verge Film Awards, Los Angeles, USA, 2018,
MayDay Film Festival, Evansville, USA, 2020

Semi Finalist

Los Angeles CineFest, Los Angeles, USA, 2020.

THE SPEECH OF THE CHIEF

Official Selection

Artivist Film Festival, Hollywood, USA, 2007
NewLatino Filmmakers, New York, USA, 2008
Sydney Latin American Film Festival, Australia, 2008
Green Film Festival in Seoul, Korea, 2008
Native Spirit Festival, London, United Kingdom, 2008
Mostra do filme ambiental e etnográfico, Rio das Ostras, Brazil, 2008

THREE BEES FLYING AROUND A TREE

Honorable Mention

Quetzalcoatl Indigenous International Film Festival (QIIF), Oaxaca, Mexico, 2021

Best Short Documentary

Hollywood Blvd. Film Festival, Hollywood, USA, 2022

Official Selection

FARCUME: Festival Internacional de Curtas-Metragens de Faro, Portugal, 2020
Festival de Cine Amazonia del Plata, Argentina, 2022
Latino & Native American Film Festival, New Haven, USA, 2022
Festival Revelando Novos Atores Brasileiros (RNAB), Sao Paulo, Brazil, 2022

THREE BEES FLYING AROUND A TREE



A FILM BY
NORBERT G. SUCHANEK &
MÁRCIA GOMES DE OLIVEIRA



URANIUM THIRST

Official Selection

Green Film Festival in Seoul, Korea, 2010

Photo Exhibitions

450 YEARS OF SÃO PAULO - METROPOL OF THE ATLANTIC RAINFOREST

Photo exhibition about São Paulo, a project in collaboration with the Munich Cultural Department and the Munich Ethnological Museum. **Shown 2004** in Munich at the Interim cultural centre.

THE HANDS OF CESIUM

Photo exhibition about the radioactive accident with Cesium 137 that happened September 1987 in the city of Goiânia. Produced with support by the Heinrich Böll Foundation in Brazil. Shown **2011** in Rio de Janeiro, Salvador, Recife, Jatobá, Floresta, Itacuruba and Belém de São Francisco. June **2012** in Rio de Janeiro as part of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio + 20. November **2013**, Niteroi at the Oscar Niemeyer Foundation during the National Science and Technology Week. June **2017** in the City of Goiás as part of the 19th Festival Internacional de Cinema e Vídeo Ambiental (Fica 2017). September **2017** in Goiânia, Centro Municipal de Cultura Goiânia Ouro, as part of FestCine Goiânia.

BRASILIENS TSCHERNOBYL / BRAZIL'S CHERNOBYL

Photo exhibition about the radioactive accident of Goiânia, produced with support by the German Federal Environment Agency and the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety of Germany. Shown October **2017** in Berlin in the Kulturbrauerei Prenzlauer Berg.

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