

TOUCH THE SOUND takes us on a remarkable journey with Evelyn Glennie, one of the world's foremost musicians, a Grammy-winning classical percussionist whose solo work is unrivalled. She is also deaf.

This is her story. Supported by her caring father, Evelyn overcame considerable obstacles to become an extraordinary success. Through her, sound is palpable and rhythm is the basis of everything. Without vibration, there is nothing. From silence to music, from hearing to seeing and to feeling, sound is felt through every sense in our body.

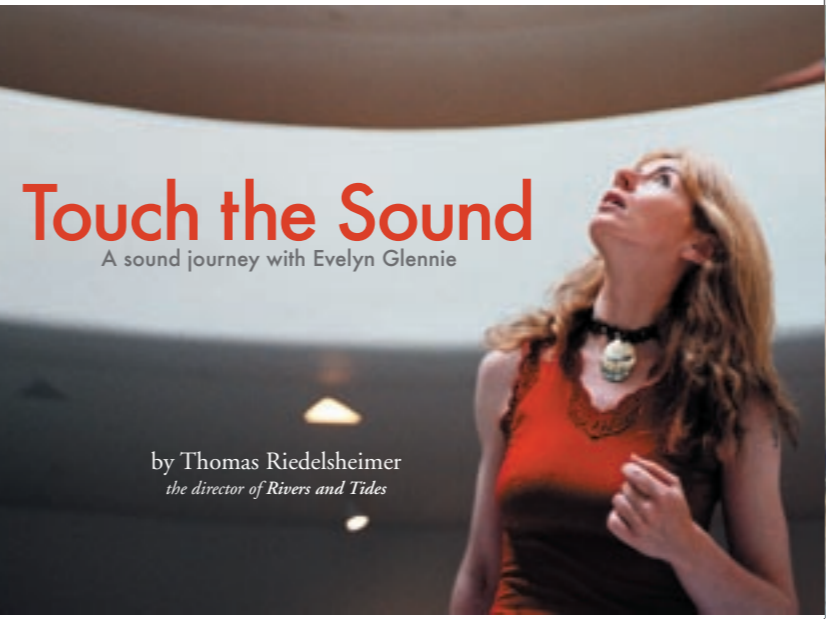
Cinematographer and director Thomas Riedelsheimer (director of the award-winning box office success RIVERS AND TIDES) demonstrates his gift for mapping a world of senses, of colourful images and evocative sounds of Japan, England, California and New York. Hearing images, seeing sound. We see, hear and truly feel the beat of the universe. We are transformed.



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PHOTO DESIGN: credits not commercial



Touch the Sound

A sound journey with Evelyn Glennie

by Thomas Riedelsheimer
the director of Rivers and Tides



Filmquadrat and Skyline present

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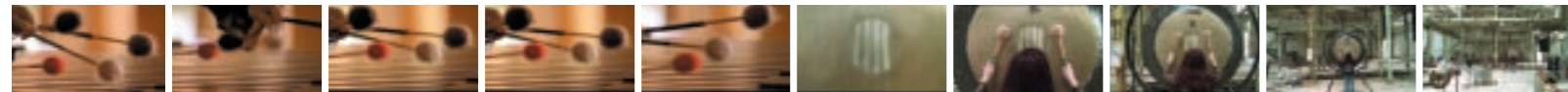
Winner Critic's Week Prize
Locarno 2004

Documentary - Germany/Scotland - 99min - 35mm - 1:1,85 - Dolby Digital
www.touch-the-sound.com



My personal approach

Michi excited me. This Marimba piece of the Japanese Muscian Keiko Abe, interpreted by Scottish percussionist Evelyn Glennie, accompanied me through the long phase of the rough-cut of my previous film, Rivers and Tides. At that time I didn't yet know Evelyn, but the dynamics of the playing, the warmth of the soundscape and the changing sentiments in her interpretations remained in my mind. In the summer of 2001 I went to a solo concert of Evelyn in Cheltenham, England. Only a few minutes after she began to play, I knew I wanted to do my next film on Ms Glennie and this world of sounds. Her energy and this incredible ability to hear with the whole body and each of her senses, was fascinating. I wanted to listen into her world with my instrument – the camera.



Hearing is a form of touch, she says – and that's what it's about. To listen and to let yourself be touched. The film deliberately avoids what makes up Evelyn's musical everyday life: her concerts and performances with the biggest orchestras of the world. Instead, journeys of sound occur – to places foreign or familiar. And through the small, improvised sessions with other musicians from around the globe.

The filming itself lasted an entire year. Add another year for post-production. And because of this time, I hear differently – simply by being more aware. I believe that sounds and rhythm essentially influence our surroundings, our moods and our quality of life. Consciously hearing is as important as an appreciation of seeing, or eating. In this sense: Enjoy your meal!

Thomas Riedelsheimer

Thomas Riedelsheimer

Born September 1963; studied at the Academy for Film and Television in Munich (1984-1991); since 1986 free-lance author, director and cameraman in Germany and abroad (Somalia, Tanzania, South Africa, New Zealand, Latvia, Russia, Tibet, Nepal, Japan, Canada, Scotland, etc.); lecturer at seminars on cinematography at the Film Academy in Munich; own equipment: camera crane, steadicam, lights; camera work on 16mm, S16mm and 35mm, as well as on Beta SP and DigiBeta.

Pre 2001: production work for Riedelsheimer Dokumentarfilm

2001 till present: director of the film production company Filmquadrat, with partners Stefan Tolz and Thomas Wartmann.

Credits as Director and Director of Photography

RIVERS AND TIDES - ANDY GOLDSWORTHY WORKING WITH TIME
Germany/Scotland 2000, 90 min, col., S16mm, director, camera; Prod: Mediopolis, Co-Prod: Skyline Productions for ARTE, YLE, FFF, Multi - award winning film on international theatrical release. DVD release 2004
www.riversandtides.co.uk

METAMORPHOSEN (Metamorphoses)
Germany 1997/98, 45 and 93 min, col., Digi Beta 16:9

LHASA UND DER GEIST TIBETS (Lhasa and the spirit of Tibet)
Germany 1996/97, 60 min, col., Digi Beta 16:9

SCHWEBEN HEIßT LIEBEN (Floating means Love)
Germany 1994, 80min, col., 16mm

DANN WERDEN SIE SCHON SCHIEREN...
Germany 1992, 63min, s/w, 16mm

SPONSAE CHRISTI (The Brides of Christ)
Germany 1991/92, 68min, col., 16mm

BILDSCHIRMHERRSCHAFT (Government on Air)
Germany 1988/89, 60min, col., SP Highband

Awards

2003 2 x German Filmprize "Lola60" - Best Camera, Best Documentary
2003 Best Documentary, San Diego Critics Circle
2002 Bester Dokumentarfilm, Verband der deutschen Filmkritik
2002 Best Documentary, San Francisco Critics Circle
2002 Grand Prize, San Francisco
2002 Grand Prix, Montreal
2001 German Camera Prize
1998 Film Award, Munich
1993 German Video Art Award
1993 Adolf-Grimme Gold Award (Best Documentary on German TV)

Crew

director, photography, editor:
Thomas Riedelsheimer

producers:
Stefan Tolz
Leslie Hills
Trevor Davies

music improvised and performed by:
Evelyn Glennie and
Fred Frith
Roxanne Butterfly, USA
Horazio "El Negro" Hernandez, USA
Za Ondekoza, Japan
This Mika & Saikou, Japan
Jason "The Fogmaster", USA

sound designers:
Marc von Stuerler (location sound)
Gregor Kuschel (location sound)
Christoph von Schoenburg (sound edit)
Hubertus Rath (re-recording mix)

camera assistants:
Dieter Stuermer
Oliver Sachs
Shinji Heboki
Isabel Alvarez

line producers:
Andrés Jaurenick
Heinz Hausner
Dave Tarvit

production manager:
Markus Breimaier

production assistants:
Karin Jäger
Claudia Seifert
Stephanie Hills

commissioning editors:
Walter Greifenstein, BR, Germany
Jochen Kölsch, ARTE
Erkki Astala and Eila Werning, YLE Finland

With the support of:
Scottish Screen National Lottery Fund
FilmFernsehFonds Bayern
Filmförderanstalt
BKM, minister of Culture, Germany
NRW Filmstiftung, Germany

and in co-production with:
BR, Bavarian Television
ARTE
YLE TV1 Co-productions, Finland

produced by:
Filmquadrat, Munich

in co-production with:
Skyline, Edinburgh

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