

Jacques Perrin presents

# "WINGED MIGRATION"

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# WINGED MIGRATION

## Filmmakers

Director	JACQUES PERRIN
Co-Directors	JACQUES CLUZAUD MICHEL DEBATS
Narrator	JACQUES PERRIN
Writers	STÉPHANE DURAND JACQUES PERRIN
Producers	CHRISTOPHE BARRATIER JACQUES PERRIN
Executive Producer	JEAN DE TRÉGOMAIN
Associate Producers	REINHARD BRUNDIG DANIÈLE DELORME JEAN-MARC HENCHOZ JEAN LABADIE JOSÉ MARÍA MORALES ANDREA OCCHIPINTI YVES ROBERT
Cinematographers	MICHAEL BENJAMIN SYLVIE CARCEDO-DREUJOU LAURENT CHARBONNIER LUC DRION LAURENT FLEUTOT PHILIPPE GARGUIL DOMINIQUE GENTIL BERNARD LUTIC THIERRY MACHADO STÉPHANE MARTIN FABRICE MOINDROT ERNST SASSE MICHAEL TERRASSE THIERRY THOMAS
Sound Recordist	PHILIPPE BARBEAU
Composer	BRUNO COULAIS
Editor	MARIE-JOSÈPHE YOYOTTE
Production Design	RÉGIS NICOLINO
Stills Photographer	MATHIEU SIMONET
Idea	VALENTINE PERRIN

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## WINGED MIGRATION

*"For eighty million years, birds have ruled the skies, seas and earth. Each spring, they fly vast distances. Each Fall, they fly the same route back. This film is the result of four years following their amazing odysseys, in the northern hemisphere and then the south, species by species, flying over seas and continents."*

— Jacques Perrin (from "Winged Migration")

Long one of France's most respected producers (Academy Award Winners "Z" and "Black and White in Color") and actors ("Z," "Cinema Paradiso," "The Young Girls of Rochefort," "Donkey Skin" and "The Brotherhood of the Wolf"), Jacques Perrin has more recently had a highly successful career creating films about nature, including "Le Peuple Singe" (monkeys) and "Microcosmos" (insects) and set in exotic locales ("Himalaya"). Now with his penultimate film "Winged Migration" Perrin takes on his greatest challenge yet: exploring the mystery of birds in flight. Five teams of people (more than 450 people, including 17 pilots and 14 cinematographers) were necessary to follow a variety of bird migrations through forty countries and each of the seven continents. The film covers landscapes that range from the Eiffel Tower and Monument Valley to the remote reaches of the Arctic and the Amazon. All manner of man-made machines were employed, including planes, gliders, helicopters, and balloons, and numerous innovative techniques and ingeniously designed cameras were utilized to allow the filmmakers to fly alongside, above, below and in front of their subjects. The result is a film of staggering beauty that opens one's eyes to the ineffable wonders of the natural world.

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## WINGED MIGRATION

Earthbound, watching the birds fly across the sky, we undertook this film. We had to go higher, nearer the birds, within striking distance of the stars.

How could we manage it? Man has dreamt of birds since the beginning of time. How to imagine being among the first to transform this dream into reality? I will always treasure the memory of the first time we achieved this. The cameraman was following the movements of the geese, with one hand the assistant pushed away those who came too near the camera: the whole spool of film ran out. Radiant, tears in their eyes, they looked at me, speechless, motionless. Their mastery and the technical result were of minor importance, they had been in the confidence of the birds in flight.

What if, for the space of a year, we no longer waited for the seasons, what if we embarked on the most fabulous of journeys, what if, abandoning our towns and our countryside, we went on a tour of the planet?

What if we understood that our borders did not exist, that the earth is a one and only space and what if we learned to be free as birds?

—Jacques Perrin

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## WINGED MIGRATION

### About the Birds

“Winged Migration” is a film dedicated to birds and their displacements according to the seasons. For every one of us, these winged creatures are among the most fascinating, the most shrouded in mystery and poetry.

Among all the vertebrates, they are the only ones to have mastered the open sky. Through a series of miracles of evolution, they have conquered all the skies by equipping themselves with remarkably adapted organs, wings covered with feathers, powerful muscles to move them, the heart of a long distance runner. They combine a minimum of weight with maximum strength and ease. They make up one of the most extraordinary successes of evolution, after having come from a reptilian ancestor crawling on the ground. Their flight gives them an accurate place in the biosphere; no other animal has ever come to contest this.

Their exceptional faculties have allowed them to answer annual fluctuations in the climates by finding refuge during the winter far from their homelands where they breed. They are the undeniable champions among all the long distance migrants.

The life of many of them is spent in long peregrinations between the place where they nest and the one where they live during the winter. Many change continents. Some fly around the earth in untiring turns. And this in spite of the risks which await them. In order to better face them, even the most solitary gather together in gigantic groups, one of the great shows of nature.

To perform these exploits, as in anticipation of the efforts awaiting them, the birds accumulate reserves of fats before their departure. To guide themselves, they have discovered astronomical bearings, observing the sun and the stars. They perceive the magnetic field of the earth as the needle of a compass. They have an internal clock which gives them the time and the season of the year. The hereditary innate and a part of apprenticeship with their elders, informs them on the term of their voyages and the skyways to reach them. They know how to cope with weather conditions in an uninterrupted dialogue with the wind.

“Winged Migration” relates the saga of these myriad of birds all along their migration routes.

—Professor Jean Dorst, French Academy of Sciences

## WINGED MIGRATION

### The Migratory Routes

The routes taken by migrating birds have existed for thousands of years. It is because life becomes momentarily difficult where they breed that the birds leave to find better living conditions elsewhere.

Most migrations follow a north-south axis. As autumn approaches, birds living in temperate or northern climates migrate towards more hospitable latitudes, towards the tropics and the Equator.

Four main axes may be defined:

**North American birds** (snow geese, Canada geese, sandhill cranes...) move towards the southern States of the USA, towards central or South America;

**European and Asian birds** (Eurasian cranes, white storks, study swallows, curlews...) aiming for Africa, cross the Mediterranean Sea or fly round it via Spain or the Middle East;

**Asian birds** (bar-headed geese, Siberian cranes) going to India fly to the east and the west around the Himalayas, or else sweep over the passes and peaks of the "Roof of the World";

Finally, there are the **Southeast Asian birds**, such as knots going to southeast Asia and as far as Australia and the Pacific Ocean.

Each migrant will follow one of these four main pathways, adapting it in accordance with its individual constraints, capacities, history and according to its points of departure and arrival.

For example, European white storks which winter in Africa cannot cross the Mediterranean Sea, contrary to swallows, since they use thermal up-streams which do not exist over the sea. They are therefore obliged to pass through Spain or Turkey.

Each species therefore has its own migratory route which follows more or less faithfully one of the four main transcontinental pathways and reflects its specific natural history. The four great migratory pathways therefore possess a multitude of cross roads, deviations and branches which move away or move together, as many ways as there are populations of winged migrants.

—Stéphane Durand

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## WINGED MIGRATION

### Countries and Birds

<b>Locations</b>	<b>Birds</b>	<b>Periods</b>
<b>Iceland: Skrudur Island</b>	Puffins, guillemots, and northern gannet	July 1998
<b>Brittany</b>	Barnacle geese	February 1999
<b>Japan, Hokkaido</b>	Red-crowned crane and whooper swans	February 1999
<b>USA, Nebraska</b>	Sandhill crane	March 1999
<b>USA, Idaho</b>	Sage grouse	April 1999
<b>USA, Oregon</b>	Western grebe, pelicans	April 1999
<b>Alaska, Cooper delta</b>	Waders	May 1999
<b>France, Bois-Roger</b>	Ducks and geese	July 1999
<b>Kosovo</b>	Flight over ruins	July 1999
<b>Germany, Wadden Sea</b>	Waders	August-September 1999
<b>Iceland</b>	Barnacle geese	September 1999
<b>USA; New York State: maple forest, then New York City</b>	Canada geese and snow geese	October 1999 and October 2000
<b>Alsace</b>	European white storks	October 1999
<b>Mauritania: Banc d'Arguin</b>	Waders	November 1999
<b>Brière</b>	Greylag geese	November 1999
<b>Alaska, Chilkat River</b>	Bald eagles	November 1999
<b>Ile Crozet, Antarctica</b>	Albatross and penguins	January-March 2000
<b>Brittany</b>	Barnacle geese	February-March 2000
<b>Camargue and Cotentin</b>	Flights of water fowl and starlings	February 2000
<b>Senegal, Djoudj</b>	Pelicans, aigrettes, darters, jacabas	February 2000
<b>Mali, Kolimbiné Valley</b>	European turtle-doves	March 2000
<b>USA: Lake Powell, Monument Valley</b>	Canada geese	March 2000
<b>Aubrac</b>	Eurasian cranes	March-April 2000
<b>Kenya, Bogoria, Masai Mara, Voi</b>	Flamingoes, eagles, secretary birds, and hornbills	March 2000
<b>Spain, Galicia</b>	Great bustards	April 2000
<b>Brittany</b>	Black-necked swans	April 2000
<b>Sologne</b>	Great-crested and black-necked grebes	April-May 2000
<b>Quebec, Cap Tourmente</b>	Snow geese	May 2000
<b>Normandy</b>	Cranes and storks	June 2000
<b>Aubrac</b>	Cranes and storks	June 2000
<b>Sologne</b>	4 seasons of robins	June-July 2000
<b>Canada, Blyot Island</b>	Snowy owl, sandhill crane, snow geese, waders	June-July 2000

<b>Iceland, Jokulsarlon glacier, mountain lakes, region of Hofn, Skrudur, region of Husavik</b>	Great Skua, arctic tern, swan, great northern diver, eider duck, puffins, guillemots, northern gannet, greylag geese	June-July 2000
<b>Greenland, Disko Bay</b>	Glaciers: icebergs falling	26-31 July 2000
<b>New Zealand, Cook Straits</b>	Albatross at sea	August 2000
<b>Senegal: Djoudj, Langue de Barbarie, boobab forest of Bandia, Saloum delta</b>	Great white pelicans	September 2000
<b>Jura</b>	4 seasons of robins	Year 2000
<b>Spain, Pyrenes</b>	Traditional pigeon hunt	October 2000
<b>Nepal</b>	Bar-headed geese	October 2000
<b>Argentina (Bariloche) and Chile (Torres de Paine)</b>	Andean Condors	November 2000
<b>USA: Adirondacks, Lake Powell</b>	Snow geese and Canada geese	Nov.-Dec. 2000 January 2001
<b>Senegal: Djoudj</b>	Pelicans, darters, jacanas, egrets	December 2000
<b>La Rochelle</b>	Barnacle geese	December 2000
<b>USA: Grand Canyon</b>	Bald eagle	December 2000
<b>Manche</b>	Starlings	December 2000
<b>Mauritania, Banc d'Arguin</b>	Helicopter shots	January 2001
<b>India, Bharatpur</b>	Bar-headed geese, pelicans, cranes	January 2001
<b>Falkland Islands</b>	Albatross and penguins	January 2001
<b>Spain, Extremadura</b>	Storks, wood pigeons, cranes	January 2001
<b>Peru, Amazon</b>	Macaws	Jan./Feb. 2001
<b>Aveyron: Rodelle, Belcastel, Bozouls</b>	Greylag geese	Jan./Feb. 2001
<b>Oleron: Ste. Marie</b>	Eurasian cranes	Jan./Feb. 2001
<b>Ariège: Pamiers, Lac de Montbel</b>	Whooper swans and white storks	Jan./Feb. 2001
<b>Libya</b>	White storks	March 2001
<b>Kenya</b>	White pelicans	March 2001
<b>Vietnam</b>	Whooper swans and black-headed ibis	April 2001
<b>Guyane</b>	Macaws	April 2001
<b>Camargue</b>	Whooper swans	June 2001
<b>Pont de Normandie</b>	Greylag geese	June 2001
<b>USA: Montana</b>	Sparrows	May-June 2001

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## WINGED MIGRATION

### How the Migrating Birds were Filmed

Three years of shooting were needed by five teams in order to follow bird migrations flying over the seven continents: from one pole to another, from the seas to snowcapped mountains, from the canopy of heaven to mangroves and swamps, from frozen areas and scorching deserts to our peaceful countryside. To film birds in flight under all the latitudes, to observe the behavior of species on the ground or even on the seas, we have developed innovative techniques in order to follow every type of movement birds make, whatever their size, altitude, weather conditions and speed of their travel.

### Aircraft Used

**Traditional Glider** – It allows following some birds in ascending currents which lift them up to high altitude carrier winds. It also allows following migrations at a short distance.

**Remote Controlled** – A model on which a compact camera is attached. It allows accompanying birds from their takeoff and of being in the midst of formation flights. It is equipped with a remote control motor, which offers the possibility of joining or leaving a gap with the birds. At the operational control center, installed either on the ground or in an accompanying helicopter, two video drives reproduce on the one hand, the spectrum of vision needed to pilot the motor glider, and on the other hand the management of the camera's panoramic movement.

The gliders can wander for several dozen miles. In case of an eventual loss of control of a unit, a computer placed on board automatically takes control of it by giving it a direction which will bring it back to its base of departure, up to the end of the landing phase.

**Helicopter Model** – The picture taking and flying control systems are similar to that of the glider model even if the equipment's piloting is necessarily different. This model allows following the subjects to the edge of the most varied relief configurations and in sites where aerial evolutions seem impossible.

**The Helicopter** – It offers the possibility of following migratory flights from a distance. It is equipped with a Wescam bulb and a Tyler system allowing the use of long focal lenses.

**The Delta Plane or Delta Wing** – Migrating birds are not afraid of its company. It allows penetrating inside migratory flights and of evolving in glides, around formations, underlined by breathtaking camera movements.

**The Ultra Light Motorized (ULM) aircraft** – Developed for the film, it allows bringing a cameraman who has a field of vision of nearly 360 degrees.

**Balloon** – It allows quick passages over areas where migrating populations sojourn. Linked to the ground it offers variable heights, an ideal platform for the photographing of complete planes.

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## WINGED MIGRATION

### About the Filmmakers

Long one of France's most respected producers (Academy Award Winners "Z" and "Black and White in Color") and actors ("Z," "Cinema Paradiso," "The Young Girls of Rochefort," "Donkey Skin" and "The Brotherhood of the Wolf"), **Jacques Perrin** (Director, Writer, Producer) has more recently had a highly successful career creating films about nature, including "Le Peuple Singe" (monkeys) and "Microcosmos" (insects) and set in exotic locales ("Himalaya").

Perrin began his extensive acting career with his first movie, "La Verte moisson," in 1959, and has since appeared in over a hundred films. He has acted in the films of award-winning directors such as Costa-Gavras in "Special Section," "State of Siege," "Shock Troops," "The Sleeping Car Murders" and the Academy Award winning "Z", which he also produced. Perrin also appeared in several of Pierre Schoendoerffer's films, including "A Captain's Honor," "Le Crabe-tambour," "The 317th Platoon" and "Là-haut." His numerous other films include "Scènes de crimes" and "Un Uomo a metà," for which he won a Volpi Cup for Best Actor at the Venice Film Festival in 1965.

In addition to his successful career as an actor, Perrin has produced many award-winning films. *The Washington Post* described his beautifully filmed "Himalaya," nominated for an Oscar for Best Foreign Film, as "a movie that blends the land and customs of the people of Nepal into a visually poetic, moving story." "Microcosmos," which won several César Awards in France including one for Best Producer, employs vivid cinematography to take an intimate view of the world of insects.

Perrin's other producing credits include: "Les Enfants de Lumière," "Guelwaar," "Oh pardon! tu dormais," "Hors la vie," "The Monkey Folk," "Adoption," "The Desert of the Tartars" and "Black and White in Color," which earned an Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film. Additionally, he produced Costa-Gavras' "Special Section" and "State of Siege." Perrin also directed the television series "Médecins des Hommes," as well as "L'Empire du milieu du sud," which he also wrote and produced.

**Jacques Cluzaud** (Co-Director) was the assistant director for "Bille en tête" and "La Lune d'Omaha." In 1990, he directed the television series "Constance et Vicky."

**Michel Debats** (Co-Director) After acting in "Les Racines du mal" in 1967, Debats served as assistant director on several films, including "Les Borsalini," "La 7ème cible," "Comédie d'été," "Le Dernier tour," "Madame Butterfly," and most recently, "Himalaya," for which Debats also served as costume designer.

**Stéphane Durand** (Writer) makes her film debut with "Winged Migration."

**Christophe Barratier** (Producer) previously worked with Jacques Perrin, producing "Himalaya" and "Microcosmos."

**Jean de Tregomain** (Executive Producer) also executive produced "Himalaya," and acted as production manager for "Les Faussaires" and "Siméon." Earlier in his career, he acted in several films including "Paradise for All," "Liberty belle," "Une étrange affaire" and "L'Oeil au beur(re) noir."

**Michael Benjamin** (Cinematographer) also shot "Drôles de clowns." Additionally, he worked on "Like a Fish Out of Water," "Héroïnes" and "Chez ma tante."

**Sylvie Carcedo- Dreujou** (Cinematographer) worked on the films "Le Retour de Casanova" and "Rive droite, rive gaucher."

**Laurent Charbonnier** (Cinematographer) worked on the sound for "Les Solitaires" and "Le Nombre i," and was the boom operator for "20, avenue Parmentier."

**Luc Drion**(Cinematographer) served as cinematographer on "The Abyss," "Golem, le jardin pétrifié," "Tout do it disparaître" and "Un Noël de chien." Drion also worked on "Benvenuta" and "Toto le héros."

**Laurent Fleutot** (Cinematographer) was the cinematographer on "La Ballade de Don" and "Les Savates du bon Dieu." Fleutot has also done camera work on many other films, including: "Lolita," "Tous les matins du monde," "Un Coeur qui bat," "Tumultes," "Comédie d'amour," "Nocturne indien," "Les Keufs" and "Round Midnight."

**Philippe Garguil** (Cinematographer) makes his film debut with "Winged Migration."

**Dominique Gentil** (Cinematographer) served as cinematographer on many films, including: "Le Cri du printemps," "Visages de femmes," "Mortu Nega," "Udju Azul di Yonta," "Quelque part vers Conakry" and "Siblings, ce qu'on ne peut traduire." Gentil also worked on "Guelwaar," "Twist à Popenguine," "Sortez des rangs," "Comme une bête," "À deux sur la comète" and "Faat Kiné."

**Bernard Lutic** (Cinematographer) filmed numerous films such as "The Luzhin Defence," "Lumumba," "I Dreamed of Africa," "My Life So Far," "Mookie," "Hanuman" and "Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea." He was also the cinematographer on "Le Roi de Paris," "Les Faussaires," "Time is Money," "The Return of the Musketeers," "Dandin," "L'Ami de mon amie" and "Le Colonel Chabert," for which he was nominated for France's César Award for Best Cinematography. Other films include: "Leave All Fair," "Revolution," "Tri stesse et beauté," "Coup de foudre," "A Captain's Honor," "La Beau mariage," "Plein sud" and "Anthracite." He also worked on "Midnight Express" and "Le Mâle du siècle." Lutic died in a tragic plane crash in 2000.

**Thierry Machado** (Cinematographer) was a cinematographer on Perrin's "Microcosmos," and won France's César Award for Best Cinematography. Machado also worked on "L'Entraînement du champion avant la course."

**Stephane Martin** (Cinematographer) filmed "Ton tour viendra" and did camera work for "Mon copain Rachid." She also appeared in "Le Déménagement."

**Fabrice Moindrot** (Cinematographer) has previously worked on "Confessions of an Ugly Stepsister," "Highlander: The Raven," "Marceeel," "Les Mystères de Sadjarah," "Le Raisin d'or," "Total Eclipse" and "Les Eaux dormantes."

**Ernst Sasse** (Cinematographer) makes his film debut with "Winged Migration."

**Michael Terrasse** (Cinematographer) makes his film debut with "Winged Migration."

**Thierry Thomas** (Cinematographer) makes his film debut with "Winged Migration."

**Philippe Barbeau** (Sound Recordist) worked with Perrin previously, as sound recordist on "Microcosmos" in 1996. He won France's César Award for Best Sound for his work on that film.

**Bruno Coulais** (Composer) composed the score for "Microcosmos," for which he won France's César award and the Georges Delerue Prize at the Flanders International Film Festival. His other work includes "Quidam," "La femme secrète," "Zanzibar," "Le Jour des rois," "Le Retour de Casanova," "Le Petit prince a dit," "Vieille canaille" and "Siméon." Coulais has also composed music for "Le Fils du requin," "Flight from Justice," "Waati," "Jeunesse" and "Pardaillan."

Other notable musical works include: "Serial Lover," "Combat de fauves," the miniseries "The Count of Monte Cristo," "Belle Maman," "Balzac," "Scènes de crimes" and "Himalaya," for which he won a César award and an Audience Award and Special Mention at the Flanders International Film Festival. More recently, Coulais has composed music for "The Magnet," "Harrison's Flowers," "Les Rivières pourpres," which earned him a César nomination, "Un aller simple," "De l'amour," "Origine océan" and "Vidocq."

**Marie-Joséphé Yoyotte** (Editor) has edited many films, including: "La guerre des boutons," "Le Distrain," "Le Silencieux," "Le Sauvage," for which she was nominated for a César award, "Good-bye, Emmanuelle," "La Boum," "Diva," "La 7ème cible" and "Tous les matins du monde," earning her another César nomination. She also worked on "Siméon," "Mima," "Tolérance" and "The Count of Monte Cristo." "Microcosmos" earned her a César award, as did "Police Python 357." Other films include "Le Prince du Pacifique," "Balzac" and the miniseries "Les Misérables." In addition to her work in editing, Yoyotte wrote and lent her voice to "Sale Temps" and acted in "Le Testament d'Orphée."

**Regis Nicolino** (Production Designer) decorated the set for the miniseries "La Clef des champs," and was a set dresser for "Les Maris, les femmes, les amants" and "Comédie d'été."

**Mathieu Simonet** (Stills Photographer), the son of Jacques Perrin, appeared as an actor in several films before taking still photographs for his father's film. Simonet can be seen in "La Poursuite du vent," "Les enfants du printemps," "Un jeune Français," "Merci pour le chocolat," "La bande du Drugstore" and "Brocéliande."

**Valentine Perrin** (Idea) was a cinematographer for "Portrait des homes qui se branlent" and did camera work for "Entangled" and "Les Nuits fauves."

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