

CV for Mikael Agaton

Born the tenth of October 1956 in Sweden.

Writer, director, editor.

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With his 1984 Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Arts, Crafts and Design in Stockholm, he began his career as film animator, still photographer and producer of corporate films for Swedish and international companies. In 1988 he started his co-operation with medical photographer Lennart Nilsson with "The Human Immune System" for the National Geographic Society in Washington.

Two years later he was engaged by Swedish Television to write, direct and edit "Birka – Vikingastaden" a series of six one hour programs about the archaeological excavations of Sweden's first capital. At the same time preparations started for a new major production with Lennart Nilsson. In 1996 it was launched under the name "Odyssey of Life" (Livets Mirakel) as a co-production between SVT, NOVA-WGBH, Channel 4, ZDF and others. A number of international awards include the International Emmy and the Peabody awards. During this time he also made the historical singles "Sigtuna – The Kings town", "The Viking Tapestry" and "Vikings in Britain" for SVT.

During the following two years he made the "Symphony of Life" 1997 with Lennart Nilsson for pharmaceutical company Serono, and "The Viking Saga" 1998 (Vikingar i öst och väst) – two hours that reveal the Vikings travels & deeds around the world, produced for SVT, WGBH, Channel 4, Discovery Canada and others. Released in January 2001 was the major three hour "The Sami - Guardians of the Last Wilderness", a series that explain the unwritten history and the present life of the Sami-people, produced for SVT and NRK, Norway.

The summer 2001 brought "Running for Life", a one hour scientific special about the all times sports mystery: the Kenyan running phenomena, made for Bech Film, SVT and DR, Denmark. In 2002 another Lennart Nilsson project was launched: "War against Disease" that aired a year later, a co production with SVT and ZDF. For UR and the Swedish Council of Sciences he produced a TV-series of four half hours: "The revolution of the Mind", telling about mankind's preparation for a future society where everything changes. "DC3" – A 90 minutes special about a Swedish spy plane that crashed in the Baltic during the cold war revealed a never healed wound in Swedish politics.

"The Stone carvers": three hours that aired in summer 1995 was the result of three years of research and shooting in the hunt for the Scandinavian prehistory. The co production between four Nordic countries revealed lots of unknown information such as the strong indication that the magnificent Nordic Bronze age probably is a fake, produced in the late 19th century. In 2005 and 2006 he produced a documentary about 18th century composer and poet Bellman, Sweden's foremost musical personality of all times.

In 2006 Agaton produced and directed a children drama series: "My Life before Birth" of 10 x 7 minutes. The series that include unique CGI treated Lennart Nilsson footage will reach the international market by the end of this year. Another documentary is also in production: "Snapphanar" telling the cruel and hidden story about a Swedish guerrilla movement from the 17th century that fought the Swedish army and ruthless kings.

Together with UR Agaton is now arranging and financing the next major international co production: "A journey under your Skin". During four hours we will travel into the deepest and most invisible secrets of the organism and mind of what we call the human being. Medical photographer is Lennart Nilsson. Release is planned to 2010.

Review excerpt:

"I could heap adjectives of praise on "Odyssey of Life" - wondrous, glorious, spiritual, miraculous, awe-inspiring, until the pages of my thesaurus crumble, and I still wouldn't do it justice. Television doesn't get any better than this."
(Eric Mink, New York Daily News)