

**F R E N E T I C**  
FILMS



Docmine Productions présente:

# BEYOND THIS PLACE

Un film de  
**Kaleo La Belle**



Durée: 95 min.

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## SYNOPSIS

"Stoned for 40 Years", c'est ainsi que Cloud Rock La Belle intitule sa vie. Dans sa vie, il n'y a que deux choses auxquelles Cloud a été fidèle: la drogue et le vélo. Et voilà que son fils Kaleo La Belle lui lance un défi: lors de leur excursion en vélo à travers l'état de l'Oregon, ce père excentrique devra affronter les questions que son fils lui posera. En effet, au cours de ce périple, Kaleo cherchera les réponses à cette relation père-fils peu commune et s'efforcera de résoudre la question de savoir dans quelle mesure le concept de liberté prôné par le mouvement hippie peut tenir la route..

★★★★★

« La ténacité de Cloud Rock La Belle ainsi que sa sincérité confèrent à ce film une force rare. »  
ZÜRITIPP

★★★★★

« Les 90 minutes de BEYOND THIS PLACE ne font pas l'effet d'un film, mais plutôt d'un trip. »  
NZZ FOLIO

★★★★★

« Un road-movie d'un genre un peu différent. »  
DIE WOCHENZEITUNG



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## LISTE TECHNIQUE

Réalisateur	Kaleo La Belle
Musique	Sufjan Stevens Raymond Byron Magic Raposa Tania Stöcklin
Montage	Kaleo La Belle, Simon Weber
Image	Stephan Heiniger
Son	Ben Lipsey (USA), Christa KÜchler (CH), Alexa Meyer (CH)
Assistant réalisation	Alexa Meyer
Postproduction	Roman Bergamin
Soundediting & Sounddesign	Patrick M. Mueller (Docmine Productions)
Producteur	Sebastian Zembol (mixtvision Mediengesellschaft mbH)
Coproduction	Schweizer Fernsehen
Rédaction	Urs Augstburger Alberto Chollet
Distribution Suisse	Frenetic Films AG
Avec le soutien de	Bundesamt für Kultur (BAK) Zürcher Filmstiftung (ZFS) Kulturfonds Suissimage Migros Kulturprozent Kanton Luzern SWISS FILMS MEDIA - A Programme of the European Union
Suisse 2010	
35 mm	
95 minutes	
Dolby Digital	
Format 1:1.85	
Version Originale: Anglais	
Sous-titres: allemand, français	
<a href="http://www.beyondthisplace.ch">www.beyondthisplace.ch</a>	

## COMMENTAIRE DU RÉALISATEUR

As a filmmaker, I am interested in what makes a person who they are, the crutches, vices, genius and uniqueness of each individual, in their complexity, the juxtaposition between who we are, and who we want to be. How much do social environments, cultural influences and genetics dictate who I am? How much is individual? Thinking about my father in these terms I began to wonder how much of his absence was rooted in the social context of his upbringing, the hippie idealisms he celebrated, and the effects of his extensive drug use. What makes a father leave his son and pursue a life in search of freedom? In preparing to make this film, the authenticity of the story was paramount and led to its personal and subjective style. I chose to shoot the film primarily myself to get as close to my father as I could. When he is looking at me, he is also looking into the camera, and at the viewer. I wanted the viewer to be in the intimacy of our exchange - but I was not interested in subjecting an audience to personal therapy, my private life or in exploiting the private lives of my protagonists. As a director, in making intimate films and telling truthful stories, I find it integral to differentiate between what is personal and what is private, private in my opinion not being for the screen. The pretense of this film was to end someplace other than where it began. What begins as a question about ideologies becomes a complex look at relationships, genealogy, and personal beliefs concluding with two individuals struggling to find a common thread in their love for each other.

*Kaleo La Belle, December 2009*

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## LES PROTAGONISTES

### CLOUD ROCK LA BELLE



*"Life is about play. Life is about freedom. Life is about rejoicing. Life is about dancing. Life is about adventure and having fun and just because people in the world are suffering it does not obligate you to also be suffering. That's full of shit. You're illustrating to them what they need to do, not the other way around ."*

*"My life is not about disappointing a child. It's about becoming a man. I love my freedom. If one wants to succeed one has to make sacrifices and apparently my son was sacrificed at the altar, but not cut in two. Saved."*

"Stoned for 40 years" is how Cloud Rock La Belle describes his life. In the 60s and 70s he was a pioneer hippie on Maui where he regularly meditated in a lava tube and took psychedelics while fasting. Nearing 70, he is an avid cyclist and has lived his life without compromising his ideals of cycling, psychedelics and freedom.

### MATT WESTCOTT



*"We didn't have responsibilities. We had dreams, there weren't responsibilities yet so we were just running around doing whatever sounded like fun and that we could afford and going to school and trying to stay out of Vietnam. The FBI was wandering around everybody's neighborhood trying to kick everybody out of their closets and back rooms*

*and send them to Vietnam. It was draft time. In some ways it was kind of senseless to get a mortgage because you didn't know when they were just going to round you up, okay got you, you're healthy, bye, Private. And nobody really wanted to get too committed there because why? They were hunting us."*

Matt and Cloud Rock have known each other since high school. Matt lives in a remote, self-made hut on Maui, surrounded by orchids.

## BRUCE STONER:

*"What does the word psychedelic mean? It doesn't mean anything today. But in the 60s and 70s it was a very poignant, meaningful word. It meant mind manifestation. You wake up and you see things you didn't see before. Things that people would visualize and they'd take their LSD trip and they'd open their eyes to the universe."  
"You share this genetic reality with your father. You should be proud of who he is."*

Bruce is a childhood friend of Cloud Rock's and lives in the jungle on Maui in a house with no window panes, just open spaces, in order to be closer to nature.

## MARJIE JOY:

*"I never trusted that Cloud Rock wasn't going to introduce you to drugs. I knew he would. And that was a bone of contention for me and one of the reasons I didn't keep communicating with Cloud. I felt you were safer if you weren't introduced to drugs at an early age. I had a real issue with that, and any good mother would."*

Marjie Joy was a hippie pioneer on Maui. She fell in love with charismatic, eccentric Cloud Rock and together they had Kaleo. They lived as a family in a small hut that Cloud Rock built in the jungle. Unable to tolerate the drug and free-love lifestyle in which Cloud Rock was partaking, she left him and eventually Maui and returned to her childhood home of Detroit in order to raise Kaleo.

## STARBUCK FLEET:

*"I feel privileged to have been able to go into the desert and be administered LSD under safe, careful guidelines by my father. A father would never wish harm on his son."*

## GYANA CHOI:

*"When I lived on the commune, they separated the children and the adults so we didn't have a nuclear family lifestyle. Basically I felt like I was on my own. I was not number one in my parent's lives and that was incredibly painful."*

## GEOFFREY GORDON:

*"It was so seductive. It's like all this bullshit fantasy of being free, free, free and high, high, high and have all the sex you want - but it doesn't work."*

## SANDY GORDON:

*"We rebelled about everything that we had gotten from our parents and it was uncharted territory with a lot of substances that had never happened."*

## RÉALISATEUR ET AUTEUR – Kaleo La Belle



Born in Maui/Hawaii, Kaleo studied fine arts in New York and film making in Switzerland. He is the director of the documentary films "Crooked River" and "Beyond This Place". Based in Switzerland, Kaleo works internationally as an independent director and cinematographer of documentary films.

### EDUCATION

- 2002 - 2006      Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts Visual  
Communications / Department Video and Film (with Honors)
- 1992 - 1996      University: NYSCC, Alfred, New York USA  
Digital Medias – Visual Arts - BFA-Graduate Degree (cum laude)

### FILMOGRAPHIE

- 2010              "Beyond This Place" / Documentary, 35mm, 95 min  
Written, directed & photographed by: Kaleo La Belle  
Editor: Tania Stoecklin  
Production: Patrick M. Mueller for DOCMINE Productions AG  
& Sebastian Zembol for mixtvision Mediengesellschaft mbH
- 2005              "Crooked River" / Documentary, DigiBeta, 52 min  
Written, directed & photographed by: Kaleo La Belle  
Editor: Margot Zanni  
Production: HGKL, La Belle Filmproduktion  
\*\*\*Nominated for TPC Creativity Award "Best Movies"
- 2004              „Dr. Stefano" / Experimental Doc Fiction, Beta SP, 7 min  
Written, directed, photographed & edited by: Kaleo La Belle  
Production: HGKL  
Festivals: 4th ERA New Horizons Film Festival, Warsaw, Poland
- 2001              "Ache of Love" / Video Essay, Beta SP, 18 min  
Written, directed & photographed by: Kaleo La Belle  
Editor: Margot Zanni  
Production: La Belle Filmproduktion  
Festivals: European Media and Art Festival 2001, Osnabrueck, DE; Museum of New  
Art, Video Festival 2002, Detroit, USA



## **LA MUSIQUE**

Musicians Sufjan Stevens and Raymond Byron Magic Raposa collaborated on the soundtrack for "Beyond This Place". With their talents combined, they were able to create the perfect music to accompany the various moods of the film. For the opening credits, Sufjan re-recorded, "In the Devil's Territory" from his 2004 release "Seven Swans". Raposa wrote and recorded the song for the end credits, "Beyond This Place", specifically for the film.

### **SUFJAN STEVENS**

Sufjan Stevens is a childhood friend of Kaleo's, and he and his brother Marzuki are the protagonists in Kaleo's feature documentary film „Crooked River“ (2005). Sufjan mixes autobiography, religious fantasy, and regional history to create folk songs of grand proportions. A preoccupation with epic concepts has motivated two state records (Michigan & Illinois), an electronic album for the animals of the Chinese zodiac (Enjoy Your Rabbit), a five-disc Christmas box set (Songs for Christmas), and, more recently, a programmatic tone poem with film accompaniment for the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway, a large scale ensemble piece commissioned by BAM in 2007. Sufjan's music has appeared in both television ("Weeds", "Nip/Tuck") and in film ("Little Miss Sunshine").

### **RAYMOND BYRON MAGIC RAPOSA**

Raymond Byron Magic Raposa records and performs under the name Castanets. Originally from San Diego, California, Raposa tested out of high school at the age of 15 and traveled the U.S. via Greyhound bus for the next four years. This unusual educational experience swamped a musical vision that reflects a disquieting substrata of American life. Author of six full-length albums, Raposa creates hypnotizing folk songs that defy categorization. Raposa is known for his sparse arrangements and the brittle, nasal timbre of his voice. He is also a skilled story-teller and his lyrics alone make every song a masterpiece.