

ROB-JAN LACOMBE
Assistant Director,
Filmmaker, Location Manager

Swiss, French, Dutch
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robjanlacombe.com



EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- 2012- Present* **Film Assistant Director**
- Lead as 1st AD on feature films, including Prénom Mathieu, coordinating a 30-person crew and adapting schedules to major weather changes while keeping shoots on track.
 - Maintain calm, clear communication on set, resolving interpersonal tensions diplomatically to ensure smooth collaboration between director, cast and technical teams.
- 2015- Present* **Social Impact Communication Creator** (Freelance)
- Cofounded Habarifilms.com
 - Direct and film documentary and Non profit projects across Europe and Africa (e.g. Fondation Espérance, Otema Hospital, Enabel), translating complex social themes into powerful visual stories.
- 2015- Present* **Board Member, Association Medaf**
- Led communication for hospitalotema.org, helping raise over CHF 20,000 per year in donations through targeted online and event campaigns.
 - Created engaging awareness events and materials that strengthened the project's visibility and attracted new volunteers to support field operations.
- 2016-2018*
2013 Semester 1 **Teacher Substitute**, Primary school, Lausanne
Lecturer, Ecal Film School (Haute Ecole D'Art Lausanne)
- 2005-2006,* **Project Coordinator**,
Madagascar, U.A.E Sharaj, Thailand. Programs, Public Relations, Mvdoulos Ship (350 pass.)
- Networked and coordinated programs and press conferences, with high profile contacts.

PERSONALITY

teampayer, adaptable, solution oriented, great interpersonal skills,

LANGUAGES

French (fluent),
English (fluent),
Swahili (proficient),

Dutch (proficient),
German (intermediate),
Spanish (Basics)

EDUCATION

2013 PEC Communications and Ethics, IBME, St-Légier, Switzerland
2011 Cinéma, Bachelor with honors in Visual Communication, ECAL / Lausanne Switzerland
2006 Classe Préparatoire , Netherlands, Amersfoort, EH,
2003 French Baccalauréat ES (Socio-Economics, Ouagadougou Burkina Faso)

NOTABLE PROJECTS

- **CINEMA WORK** - **FREELANCE WORK** (Films for Nonprofits)
- 2026 1AD, Shortfilm, *Spring Fugue*, swiss/georgia
 - 2025 dec, Liberia, Camera, *Arise from Ashes*
 - 2025 nov, Ukraine, Camera, *Children and Trauma*
- 2025 2AD, Shortfilm, *Archipelago*, Spain
- 2025 1AD, Shortfilm, July-Aug, *Un été à M.*
- 2025 Location Manager, Shortfilm, May-July *Instinct Paternel*
- 2024 1AD, Aug Feature Film, *Le Lac*, Casa Azul (part 2)
 - 2024 jul, Doc, Camera, *La Cordelle des Franciscains*
- 2024 2AD Fev April, *La Cache*, Feature Film, Bande a Part
- 2024 1AD, Jan, Feature Doc, *Nox*, Bande a Part
- 2023 1AD, sept Feature Film, *Le Lac*, Casa Azul
- 2023 Mar Fribourg Int Film Festival. Young Jury coach.
- 2023 Fev, Scout location. *Procès du chien*. director Laetitia Dosch.
- 2023 Jan, Location manager *Hotel Silence*, director Léa Pool
 - 2022 Directing, Institutional vidéo for Fondation Espérance CH
 - 2022 May June, VR camera operator for Opéra Antigone, Basel/Berlin
- 2022 Feb-Jul, 1AD Feature documentary 6 month, *Sauver la Nuit*, director Lionel Baier
 - 2021 Sept- Nov, Filmmaker for Jaune-Congo, Otema Hospital in Congo DRC
- 2021 1AD, Shortfilm *Fair Play*, Zoel Aeschbacher
- 2021 Renfort mise en scène *Sacha*, Serie,
- 2020 1AD Advert BMW Zurich
 - 2020 Feb, Filmmaker, 35min Doc about Relationships and Sex, Ivory Coast
- 2019 Location Manager, Shortfilm, *Sous les Écailles*
- 2019 Location Manager, Shortfilm, *Trou Noir*
 - 2019 June Cameraman Shooting for Ngo Point Coeur, Senegal
 - 2019 Jan-fev Filmmaker of Success stories for ENABEL/ Mozambique
 - 2018 Nov Survey for Production EFF International Ivory Coast, Togo-Ghana
- 2018 1AD, Shortfilm, *Baignade Surveillée*, Casa Azul
- 2018 1AD, Shortfilm, *Zénith*, Point Prod
- 2018 3rd Assistant, Feature, *Tambours Battants*, Point Prod
- 2018 1AD, Shortfilm, *Continental*, Ecal (sélection Officielle Clermont-Ferrand)
- 2017 1AD, Shortfilm, *Bonobo*, Ecal (Oscar winner International Film Schools)
- 2017 1AD, Med. feature, *Lost Exile*, Kosovo (Official selection Clermont-Ferrand)
- 2016 1AD. Feature *Prénom Mathieu*. Lionel Baier Téléfilm RadioTV Suisse.
 - 2015 Filmmaker. Feb-Mar. Seeds- ONG. Film& Photography Uganda.
 - 2015 Filmmaker Jan-Feb. *The Otema Clinic Project*- ONG. Lodja, Congo DRC.

AWARDS

- 2012 *Retour à Mandima* Audience Award Lisboa IFF, Best Short Film le Havre, Arte Broadcasting.
- 2012 Diploma Originality Award, Banque Cantonale Vaudoise.
- 2010 *Kwa Heri Mandima* 60 selections in Festivals. +10 awards including: Locarno Pardino d'Oro 2010, Aspen best Doc 2011, Palm Springs Best Student Documentary, Tabor Grand Prix.

REFERENCES

“Rob-Jan has the valuable ability to work independently and be open-minded while putting people from all walks of life at ease very quickly. Very flexible, he has been able to adapt to sometimes demanding and uncomfortable working conditions. He has captured with sensitivity not only the diverse benefits of the synergies between the UN and civil society partners of the Food Security and Nutrition Programme in a series of short videos, but also the lessons learned, thus paving the way for even more integrated and effective action in the future. “

Noémie Huybrecht Program Officer FAO, Mozambique
noemie.huybrechts@gmail.com

« RobJan's video footage really captured the heart of the Hopital Otema project and has been the primary communication tool for the project supported by a website he created. The videos he created for us in English and French in long and short format brought tears to peoples' eyes, making people connect with the project and critically making them donate. Rob-Jan brought a passion and enthusiasm to his work which was contagious, his willingness to work to sensitive deadlines and flexibility to film for us at short notice in Switzerland, France and DR Congo was much appreciated. »

David Towers Donors Relations at MEDAF and Head of Search at MEC
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« The undersigned, Dean of the PEC - Communication Practice and Ethics course at IBME, commends the skills and commitment of director Rob-Jan Lacombe. I particularly appreciated Mr. Lacombe's openness coupled with his depth of reflection: he willingly enters into relationships and explores possibilities in order to perfect an action or a communication. He also brings empathy and good humour to a group. I wish Mr. Rob-Jan Lacombe every success in his future achievements and career.. »

Pierre-André Léchet Lecturer of média et télévision (University of Neuchâtel)
pal@tvp.ch | +41 786131086

« Robert-Jan's multilingualism, his ability to adapt to new situations, to deal with the authorities and to supervise a film crew of more than ten nationalities were all decisive in the smooth running of my work on location. I therefore did not hesitate to ask him to assist me in my next film. Robert-Jan also taught a class of students at the ECAL, the school where I head the film department. The aim was to make a dozen short films in less than two months with directors who were new to the field. Robert-Jan managed the budget and the pedagogy of this workshop brilliantly. The films produced were of high quality »

Lionel Baier Director et Dean of Unité Cinéma ECAL, Lausanne
lionel.baier@ecal.ch | +41 213169201

« Robert-Jan established and maintained impeccable service-oriented Relationship with his superiors and was cooperative and friendly with his colleagues. We appreciated his attitude towards work, his ability towards multy tasking as well as his honesty. Robert-Jan's work for Medair has been much appreciated. »

Timothy Chapuis Communications Manager MEDAIR
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