



**SYMPHONIC DISTRESS • PRESS KIT**

## **FILM INFORMATION**

**Original title:** Détresse symphonique

**English title:** Symphonic Distress

**Original language:** Silent film

**Subtitles:** N/A

**Running time:** 10 min. 04 sec.

**Color / B&W:** Color + Black and white

**Category / Genre:** Experimental short film / Music video

**Date of completion:** October 2022

**Production budget:** 905 CAD

**Nationality / Country:** Canada

**Filming location:** Montreal + St-Jacques + Ste-Catherine-de-Hatley, Quebec, Canada

**Shooting dates:** March 2022 - October 2022

**Premiere:** Not yet released

**Shooting format:** 4K

**Screening formats:** DCP, DNxHD, MP4, MOV

**Aspect ratio:** 1.33:1

**Sound:** Stereo

**Film's web page:** [http://www.mjoubert.com/distress\\_en.html](http://www.mjoubert.com/distress_en.html)

**Trailer link:** Not yet created

**Press kit link:** <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1vtwFiWoatJrlwaO2EO1Z9fwFwpieR3is>

## **CREDITS**

**Production:** Marco Joubert

**Screenwriting:** Marco Joubert

**Directing:** Marco Joubert

**Photography / Cinematography / Camera:** Marco Joubert

**Art direction:** Marco Joubert

**Editing:** Marco Joubert

**Composer:** Yuliya Zakharava

**Piano, voice, percussions:** Pamela Reimer

**Interpretation:** Marie Tifo

**Puppeteer:** Alexandra Gorlin-Crenshaw

**Extras / Hands:** Marco Joubert, Pamela Reimer

**Animals:** Camouflage, Clara, Cosmos

## **CONTACT / DIRECTOR**

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**Nationality:** Canadian

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**Website:** <http://www.mjoubert.com/>

## **SYNOPSIS**

The music came first: a mixed contemporary piece by composer Yuliya Zakharava, in which instrumentalist Pamela Reimer plays a piano score, while also triggering prerecorded sequences and incorporating vocal and percussive elements. Asked to provide a visual component for the work, I was struck and conquered by its intensity and beauty from the very first listen. Although both the music and the film are in themselves apolitical and stateless, the wish to collaborate and the urgent impulse to express ourselves through art have been exacerbated by the outbreak of the Russo-Ukrainian conflict. The intention, therefore, while avoiding any direct reference to war, is to tacitly evoke certain universal emotions born out of its consequences: fear, suffering, outrage, vulnerability, abnegation, hope.

The visual concept devised for the project is articulated around four components:

1. Capturing the musical performance.
2. The emotional close-ups, performed by actress Marie Tifo, which are brief depictions of pure, raw, abstract, decontextualized emotions.
3. Working with puppeteer Alexandra Gorlin-Crenshaw. The choreographies imagined for the puppet are aimed at accentuating certain musical qualities, as well as representing psychic states through bodily behaviors.
4. The still lifes or video installations. This type of shots punctuates and illustrates more abstractly certain concepts and some of my emotional, instinctive, subconscious reactions inspired by the music, while seeking a subtle echo with universal concerns, experiences and feelings.

## **Marco Joubert | BIOGRAPHY**

Marco Joubert is a self-taught Canadian filmmaker and video artist, with a background in architecture and visual arts. His audiovisual practice, characterized by its formal rigor, tends toward the development of a personal language, situated at the crossroads of cinema, video art, poetry and philosophy.

Thematically, his work revolves around the specificity of the human condition: the implications of our capacity to think and reason; the gap between material comfort and our basic needs; the difficulty of communicating with others; and the ever-looming presence of our mortality. It is about the creation of otherworldly realities that still have the power to resonate with our common experiences as human beings.

Professional experiences, film shoots, workshops, residencies or invitations to festivals have brought him to Nebraska, Chicago, Prague, London, Ottawa, Brussels, Spain, Los Angeles and Minsk. He has had the privilege to collaborate with Marie Tifo, Pierre Curzi, Jean Marchand, Pauline Vaillancourt, Wayne Horvitz and the National Film Board of Canada.

His works were rewarded by the attribution of 31 awards, in addition to earning over 150 nominations; they were screened in the following countries: Australia, Belarus, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Czech Republic, France, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kosovo, Mexico, Peru, Portugal, Russia, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom and USA.

## Marco Joubert | SELECTED FILMOGRAPHY

SCREENWRITER, DIRECTOR, CINEMATOGRAPHER & EDITOR

***Symphonic Distress ~ Détresse symphonique*** | 2022 | 10.04 | Experimental • Music video

***The Primordial Impasse ~ L'impasse primordiale*** | 2022 | 03.20 | Experimental

***Helen at Dusk ~ Hélène au crépuscule*** | 2021 | 15.43 | Fiction

***The Atoms of Reality ~ Les atomes du réel*** | 2020 | 03.59 | Experimental

***The Prophetess ~ La prophétesse*** | 2019-2020 | 02.20 (or 01:40 or 03.00) | Experimental

***A Woman Torn in Half ~ La femme écartelée*** | 2018-2019 | 20.00 | Fiction

***Untangling Chaos*** | 2018 | 03.10 | Documentary

***Perdóname, Lola*** | 2017-2020 | 20.43 | Fiction

***The Blue of the Sky ~ Le bleu du ciel*** | 2017-2018 | 01.30 | Experimental

***An Entirely Simple Truth ~ Une vérité toute simple*** | 2016-2017 | 09.40 | Fiction

***Telepoetry*** | 2015 | 10.19 | Fiction

***In the Preserve & Whatnot*** | 2013-2014 | 14.14 | Experimental

***Prime Nebraska*** | 2008-2012 | 12.47 | Experimental

CO-CREATOR & CINEMATOGRAPHER

***Resolutions*** | 2015-2016 | 02.22 | Experimental

CO-CREATOR, SCREENWRITER, CO-CINEMATOGRAPHER, EDITOR & ACTOR

***The Burial*** | 2015-2017 | 07.39 | Experimental

CINEMATOGRAPHER

***Like a Sunflower in July ~ Tel un tournesol en juillet*** | 2018-2019 | 02.20 | Fiction

***Ain't That Right*** | 2015 | 05.51 | Fiction