



SOUNDS OF NATURE



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SOUNDS OF NATURE

AN ACOUSTIC JOURNEY INTO LIVING THINGS

Whether they are songs of a humpback whale, hoots of a tawny owl or strident calls of cicadas in Summer, the sounds produced by animals in nature are rich in meaning. For most of them, sound is the most efficient communication tool that they use. Beyond the multitude of animal vocalizations, nature produces a wide variety of other sounds that are equally amazing but which we are not always aware of.

Sounds of Nature is a series of three episodes focusing on the sounds produced by wild animals living in the water, in the air and on land.

Year after year, the scientific community explores this field and its great potential for new discoveries. A new discipline has even emerged from their work: the science of bioacoustics.

Women and men, scientists, audio-naturalists and ecologists, have turned their passion into a profession, travelling through oceans, forests and deserts around the world to collect an astounding variety of sounds produced by nature.

We follow those men and women in action in their quest for sounds to decipher and comprehend the abundance of interconnections between species as well as between individuals and their environment.

Their discoveries are opening new perspectives into understanding ecosystems and the species living in. Whether it is the sound of an animal claiming its territory, calling to its mate or passing its language to its young, on land or underwater, we find the same fascinating codes and rules throughout nature.

Sounds of Nature offers an immersive experience into the lives of people who specialize in insects, birds, mammals, and cetaceans. On all five continents, they welcome us into their open-air laboratories and introduce us to a new and little-known world. **From the jungles of Borneo to the tropical seas of Polynesia, via the wild valleys of the Alps, our specialists tirelessly track down the sounds produced by nature.**

While some of the scientists study the communications of tiny creatures such as insects, others try to capture the long-distance interactions of the giants of the ocean over thousands of km. Some of them attempt to understand the songs of familiar birds, while others analyze sounds imperceptible to the human ear, such as those produced by bats and moths. Sometimes, they spend months in one place to collect and analyze enormous amounts of data. **The moments we share with them are an opportunity to open our eyes and ears to the beauties of our world that remain intact.**

Sounds of Nature sheds light on the work of these dedicated researchers and reveals the results of their ground-breaking research. Sharing in their adventure means having front-row seats to what they are showing us. It also means listening to what nature is telling us, an excellent opportunity to rediscover the wonders of our planet.

SERIES CONCEPT

Sounds of Nature, an Acoustic Journey into Living Things is a series offering viewers the opportunity to witness nature at its wildest and most spectacular. Hitherto unexplored worlds will be revealed via three acoustic journeys, which are defined by the elements of water, air and land.

The diversity of species and habitats echoes the great variety of sounds produced in the wild. This is what we will portray in the series. **We will magnify the spectacle of the animal kingdom at its most intimate, from the world of tiny insects to that of giant mammals such as elephants and whales.**

The still pristine landscapes of our planet provide the backdrop for our adventure.

On this extraordinary journey, we will follow bioacoustics experts Thierry Aubin, Nicolas Mathevon, Marta Manser, Charlotte Curé, Borils Jolivet, and Eric Parmentier.

In their field research, these 21st century explorers will try to decipher the mysteries and make sense of a world that is incredibly diverse but remains little known.

From the tiny cicada, which can sing at over 80 decibels, to the cries of bats, which are imperceptible to human ears, the range of acoustic signals is enormous beyond imagination. Can we finally fulfill our dream of understanding what nature has to tell us?

Each episode is an expedition along with expert sound hunters who record our planet's biodiversity, while our cameras capture the nuances of these unique landscapes; While sounds in one place may vary throughout the day, the light also changes : when some animals start looking for a place to spend the night, others leave their shelter in search of food.

Using the keys provided by the protagonists of this acoustic adventure, the series will immerse viewers in a world at its wildest and most intimate. These keys open the door to an aspect of animal's behavior that is rarely studied. By following these men and women in their research, we will take a fresh look at wildlife and its habitats.

EPISODE 1 : WATER

SCORPION FISH, GROUPERS, WHALES, DOLPHINS, CROCODILES, SEA LIONS



A non-silent world

A silent world... This notion puts in mind Jacques Cousteau's poetic description of the ocean floor. However, the ocean is anything but silent!

On the contrary: the world beneath the waves is filled with sound.

This is where life on Earth began, and along with it, the first attempts at communication using sound. Fish, whales and crustaceans all have their word to say.

For a long time, scientists believed that only marine mammals could communicate underwater. Today they are amazed by the abundance of acoustic activity in this environment. The animal kingdom has developed a multitude of "acoustic strategies" in order to adapt to a three-dimensional world.

EPISODE 2 : AIR CAPE GANNET, BATS, RAPTORS, VULTURES



The air gave birth to humanity's oldest dream: the ability to fly. In this place of ultimate freedom, where species evolve in a 3 dimension environment, acoustic communication is essential.

By observing and listening to them, we capture the complex communication strategy they have elaborated.

Thus including the fact that our feathered cousins produce two types of signals: cries and songs. People mistakenly think that they sing to sound pleasing. There is truth to this, but there is also much more.

EPISODE 3 - LAND MEERKATS, CHAMOIS, ELEPHANTS, INSECTS



Wild animals fascinate us. Every year, thousands of people travel to the forests of France to listen to the characteristic bellow of the stag for instance.

But who ever imagined that under our feet, an almost invisible world also wants to make itself heard? In a confined space, insects and spiders make the ground around them vibrate. In the same way, other, much larger animals, can also perceive infrasound waves, which can travel through the earth over dozens of km.

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