



Death of Yves Jeanneau, CEO of Sunny Side of the Doc

La Rochelle, 15th November 2019

It is with great sadness that the team from Sunny Side of the Doc, his family and friends, announce the sudden death of Yves Jeanneau, CEO and cofounder of Sunny Side of the Doc and Asian Side of the Doc, who passed away at the age of 69, on the 14th November 2019 in La Rochelle, surrounded by his loved ones.

A pioneer for international co-productions, Yves Jeanneau always showed unfailing support for documentary and for those who perfected the craft. For the past 30 years, he brought together in one place broadcasters, decision-makers, investors, distributors, content creators and producers from the world over.

He was a director, producer at and managing director of the French production company **Les Films d'Ici** from 1984 to 2000. He then became head of documentaries at **Pathé Televisions** (2000-2001), before managing the documentary department at **France 2** (2001-2005). He then returned to documentary production at **Telfrance Group** (2006 to 2010). His production credits include Jean-Xavier de Lestrade's *Murder on a Sunday Morning*, which won the 2002 Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature.

His long, valuable experience enabled him to establish a global professional network in factual programming, bringing one of the more astute perspectives to the documentary world.

Yves was dedicated to championing creative documentary content in all its forms, and actively campaigned for many years to build bridges between producers and international broadcasters, linear documentaries and digital experiences, and even integrating cultural mediation venues into the heart of the marketplace.

With a strong passion for Asia, he worked towards professionalising the industry and building an Asian documentary market with Asian Side of the Doc, which has taken place in China, Thailand, Japan, Korea and Malaysia, building successful creative partnerships between Asian and European industry professionals.

Since celebrating Sunny Side of the Doc's 30th anniversary – which was one of the most memorable editions in terms of recognition and attendance figures, Yves Jeanneau had already imagined the programme for the years to come. Teeming with ideas, he wanted to open up to new talent and to as many people as possible – without losing this unique marketplace's DNA. He wished to put the theme of History at the heart of the next festival edition, which will take place on 22nd to 25th June 2020, in La Rochelle.

There is no doubt that history in turn shall remember Yves Jeanneau's passionate dedication and commitment to all documentary genres.

A ceremony open to all will be held on Thursday 21st November 2019 at 3:30pm at Père-Lachaise Crematorium (71 rue des Rondeaux – 75020 Paris, Metro Gambetta).



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