

La Rochelle, 14<sup>th</sup> January 2020

## Sunny Side of the Doc 2020 Roman Jeanneau appoints Mathieu Béjot, Director of Strategy and Development

The 31<sup>st</sup> edition of Sunny Side of the Doc, the international marketplace for documentary and narrative experiences, will take place on 22<sup>nd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> June in La Rochelle, France, with the central theme being History. It is in the wishes of Yves Jeanneau's family to continue his dedication to the documentary genre, with Roman Jeanneau, who has had an active role in the marketplace's organisation over the past 10 years, taking over running the company Doc Services.

Following the death of Yves Jeanneau on 14<sup>th</sup> November last year, Sunny Side of the Doc's operational team has rallied under the leadership of Roman Jeanneau. Together, they endeavour to make the 31<sup>st</sup> edition an unmissable event for creation, co-production and international distribution in the documentary genre, as well as launching new innovative developments in the PiXii Festival area.

Roman Jeanneau is the current CEO of Doc Services, the company behind Sunny Side of the Doc and Asian Side of the Doc. He has helped organise the La Rochelle-based event since 2010. He has chosen Mathieu Béjot to support him in his new role, who will undertake the newly created position of Director of Strategy and Development.

Mathieu Béjot began his career as an audiovisual attaché for the French Embassy in Canada (1988-1993), Hong Kong (1994-1997) and Japan (1997-2000). He then went on to join TV France International, the association of French television programme exporters, working as Executive Director between 2000 to 2018. In 2019, Mathieu Béjot created Connoisseur Media, a consulting company that focuses on promotion, marketing and co-financing strategy for quality content internationally. As such, he has an advisory role to BEAJ (the Broadcast Program Export Association of Japan).

"Sunny Side of the Doc has received unfailing support from the documentary industry over the past 30 years. We are relying on this international community to continue its dedication to the genre and to dare explore the future together," explains Roman Jeanneau. "With this in mind, Mathieu Béjot will bring his expertise and vision to ensure that the event remains at the forefront, to facilitate exchange between industry professionals and to rise to the challenges brought about by digital technologies."

Mathieu Béjot also commented on his new appointment: "I am delighted to collaborate with Roman Jeanneau and the Sunny Side team to further develop this marketplace, and work on a revamped Asian Side of the Doc in China in 2020. Sunny Side of the Doc, associated with PiXii Festival, is one of the flagship international events for documentary storytelling and a tremendous asset for our industry. This is why I was thrilled to accept Roman Jeanneau's invitation."

Please find the full list of Sunny side of the Doc contact details on the Contact page on our website: <a href="https://www.sunnysideofthedoc.com/contact/">https://www.sunnysideofthedoc.com/contact/</a>

Aurélie REMAN Head of Communications & Partnerships – Sunny Side of the Doc // +33 (0)6 69 28 68 33

Stéphane MALAGNAC Media Relations & PiXii Development Executive // +33 (0)6 11 83 83 74