

a film by Ruud Lenssen



# Lost in Memories

DIRECTOR & CINEMATOGRAPHER RUUD LENSSEN EDITING OZAN OLCAY COACHING HANS DORTMANS MUSIC MIKE TROLOFS & JAC LENSSEN  
COLORGRADING RICO DEERKS SOUNDMIX NIELS KOSTER POSTER PATRICK KLEIN MEULEMAN PRODUCTION RUUD LENSSEN DOCUMENTARIES

provincie limburg

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# INFORMATION

INTERNATIONAL TITLE	Lost in Memories
GENRE	Documentary, human interest
LENGTH	71 minutes for cinema or tv / 55 minutes for tv only
WORLD PREMIERE	IDFA 2019 Amsterdam
RELEASE DATE	December 26 <sup>th</sup> 2019 (Theatrical in The Netherlands)
ORIGINAL TITLE	Wei
ORIGINAL LANGUAGE	Dutch
SUBTITLES	English, German, Dutch
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	the Netherlands
COUNTIRES OF FILMING	the Netherlands
CATEGORIES	Human interest, intimate portrait, health care, mental health issues, nature, drama
WEBSITE	<a href="http://www.lostinmemories.nl">www.lostinmemories.nl</a>
EMAIL	<a href="mailto:info@ruudlenssen.nl">info@ruudlenssen.nl</a>
FACEBOOK	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/weidocumentaire/">https://www.facebook.com/weidocumentaire/</a>
IMDB	<a href="https://www.imdb.com/title/tt10788912/">https://www.imdb.com/title/tt10788912/</a>
ISAN	0000-0005-8722-0000-B-0000-0000-4
SCREENER (71 MIN)	<a href="https://vimeo.com/351216856">https://vimeo.com/351216856</a>
SCREENER (55 MIN)	
TRAILER (2 MIN)	<a href="https://vimeo.com/369760163">https://vimeo.com/369760163</a>
SHOOTING FORMAT	Canon c-log 1920 x 1080 (Full HD), color
EXHIBITION FORMAT	DCP 2K flat (1998x1080), XYZ colorspace encoded in JPEG2000
FRAME RATE	25 fps
ASPECT RATIO	1:85 (1998x1080)
AUDIO	5.1
OTHER AVAILABLE FORMAT	Full HD h264 mov / mp4 (16:9) audio stereo, 25 fps
DIRECTOR   PRODUCER	Ruud Lenssen   Ruud Lenssen Documentarles
DIRECTOR 1 <sup>ST</sup> FILM	First feature length film
DISTRIBUTION NL	Ruud Lenssen   Ruud Lenssen Documentarles
PR & MARKETING	Ruud Lenssen   Ruud Lenssen Documentarles
SALES	
DUTCH BROADCASTER	KRO-NCRV   L1



# LOGLINE | SYNOPSIS

## Logline

What happens when director Ruud Lenssen's father is told he suffers from dementia? While Jac clings to his idyllic meadow, mother Ria struggles with her role as a caregiver. In the meantime, the inevitable farewell is closing in.

## Synopsis (152 words)

*Lost in Memories* is a documentary by Ruud Lenssen that captures the process of dementia and care his parents are going through. Father Jac has created his own little paradise: an acre of land with horses, chickens and a vegetable garden. The meadow is his life's work and Jac is determined to continue looking after it. Especially now he has been diagnosed with dementia. The nature and his animals offer Jac comfort and provide grip in an increasingly confusing life.

Mother Ria is concerned about Jac's decline. The care for her husband is becoming more and more intensive and she must give up parts of her own life. Her feelings of love and caring regularly shift to feelings of frustration and loneliness. Nevertheless, she wants to take care of Jac at home for as long as she can. But while Jac is trying to cling to his paradise, the inevitable farewell is closing in.

*Lost in Memories* is not only a film about dementia and care, but also a loving story about the impermanence of life.

## Alternative synopsis (174 words)

By the time the father of the young filmmaker Ruud Lenssen receives the diagnosis of vascular dementia, the disease is so advanced that the doctor's words barely seem to register. But it's all too clear to his wife Ria, and to Ruud and his sister: this is an irreversible process.

For the next two years, Ruud films his parents as they struggle on. Although he often remains in the background in scenes from the couple's lives, the sense of intimacy in their relationship is never lost. The added Super 8 footage shows the couple in their first years of marriage, contrasting starkly with their current decline. The way in which the disease's devastating effect on the family is brought to the screen is both tender and distressing. Jac gradually loses his grip on life and watches on helplessly as his beloved ponies and the land with his vegetable garden and chicken run are sold off. His wife Ria struggles in her role as caregiver. As the disease progresses, an inevitable decision grows ever closer.





# DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

At first, when my father was diagnosed with vascular dementia, it didn't occur to me to document his disease process. But when my father's illness got worse and I witnessed the impact it had on my mother and our family, I felt the urge to film. From up close I saw my mother struggling with her role as an informal caregiver and how her world was shrinking, while my father declined in stages.

I wanted to document my parents myself, without external producer, broadcaster and film crew, completely independent as a son, to guarantee the intimacy in the film as much as possible. The result is a personal story that is told from the inside, in which I could put all my heart.

I would like to make the prevailing taboos around informal care and dementia discussable with this film. It shows the struggle from both sides: the isolation of my mother; my father's fear and uncertainty; not being able to ask for help; until finally the impossible but forced decision to distance yourself from your life partner.

At first, the presence of the meadow, my father's natural paradise, offered my father some guidance, but eventually turned out to be an even greater obstacle for my mother but also unconsciously for my father. My father's condition getting worse was reflected in the condition of the crops and the care of the horses. But the meadow is more than a metaphor, it is the common thread in the film and the bottleneck in my parents' relationship.

Lost in Memories is not just a film about dementia and care, but also a loving story about the impermanence of life. An ode to my parents and to parents in general.



# ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

## EDUCATION

2007 – 2010 Willem de Kooning Academy, Rotterdam (NL),  
Bachelor in audiovisual design, graduated.

2013 – 2016 LUCA School of Arts, Genk (BE), Master in documentary, graduated with  
honours.

## FILMOGRAPHY FEATURE LENGTH FILMS

**Lost in Memories** | 2019 | 71 min.

## SHORTS & MEDIUM LENGTH FILMS

**The Six from Zaerum** | 2019 | 45 min.

**The Myth of the Lake** | 2019 | 40 min.

**Homeland** | 2018 | 45 min.

**Floor** | 2018 | 33 min.

**De Baersdonck** | 2018 | 37 min.

**Normal People** | 2017 | 25 min.

**Wandern** | 2017 | 25 min.

**FC Polska** | 2016 | 50 min.

**Common Sense** | 2013 | 55 min.

**Between Two Worlds** | 2012 | 26 min.

**Kathem & Chris** | 2010 | 12 min. \*Winner Best Studentfilm, Dutch Filmfestival, Utrecht 2010



## BIOGRAPHY

Ruud Lenssen is an independent documentary filmmaker, known from films such as *Lost in Memories* (IDFA competition 2019) and *Kathem & Chris* (winner Dioraphte award at the Dutch Filmfestival 2010).

Growing up as a shy kid in a small village, Ruud Lenssen (*Broekhuizen* – the Netherlands, 1986) naturally learned the art of observing. But it took until his studies at the film academies of Rotterdam, the Netherlands (WdKA 2007-2010) and Genk, Belgium (LUCA School of Arts 2013-2016, master's degree, graduated with honors) before he really knew how to give expression to this. His love for the documentary genre was inevitable.

The lessons of his youth manifest themselves in all films by Ruud Lenssen because of the observing style, but also through the choice of socially relevant themes that he portrays in a modest and personal way. After all, it is often those personal stories that provide insight into how to deal with the major issues of life.



# SCREENINGS

## LOST IN MEMORIES - SCREENINGS & AWARDS

### The Netherlands

- IDFA 2019 *Nomination for Best Dutch Documentary*  
*Top audience favourites (9.0/10)*
- Dutch Filmfestival, Utrecht 2020
- Limburg Film Festival, Venlo 2020 *\*Winner Best Documentary*
- Beholders Documentary Dialogues 2020
- Theatrical release *\*Crystal Film award +15.000 attendances.*
- Broadcasted primetime on Dutch National TV (2doc KRO-NCRV)
- Shortlist Dutch submission Academy Awards (Oscars)

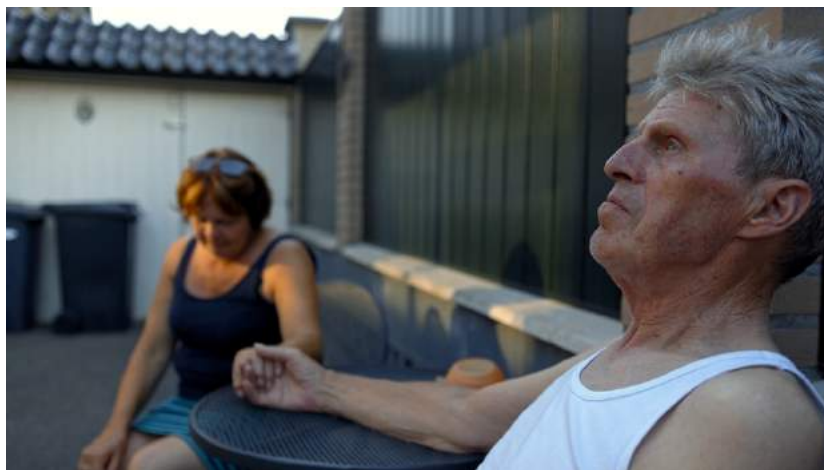
### International

- One World Prague 2020, CZ *International premiere*
- International Documentary Filmfestival of Ierapetra 2020, GR
- Filmfestival Kitzbühel 2020, AU *\*Winner Best International Documentary*
- Chagrin Documentary Film Festival 2020, USA
- Kasseler Dokfest 2020, GER *\* Nomination Golden Key Award*
- Breaking Down Barriers 2020, RUS
- GZDOC 2020, CH *\* Nomination Golden Kapok Award*
- Festival Millenium 2021, BE
- International Filmmaker Festival New York 2021, USA
- Sebastopol Documentary Film Festival 2021, USA
- Third ACTion Filmfestival 2021, CA
- Melbourne Documentary Filmfestival 2021, AUS
- Verzio International Human Rights Documentary Filmfestival 2021, HUN





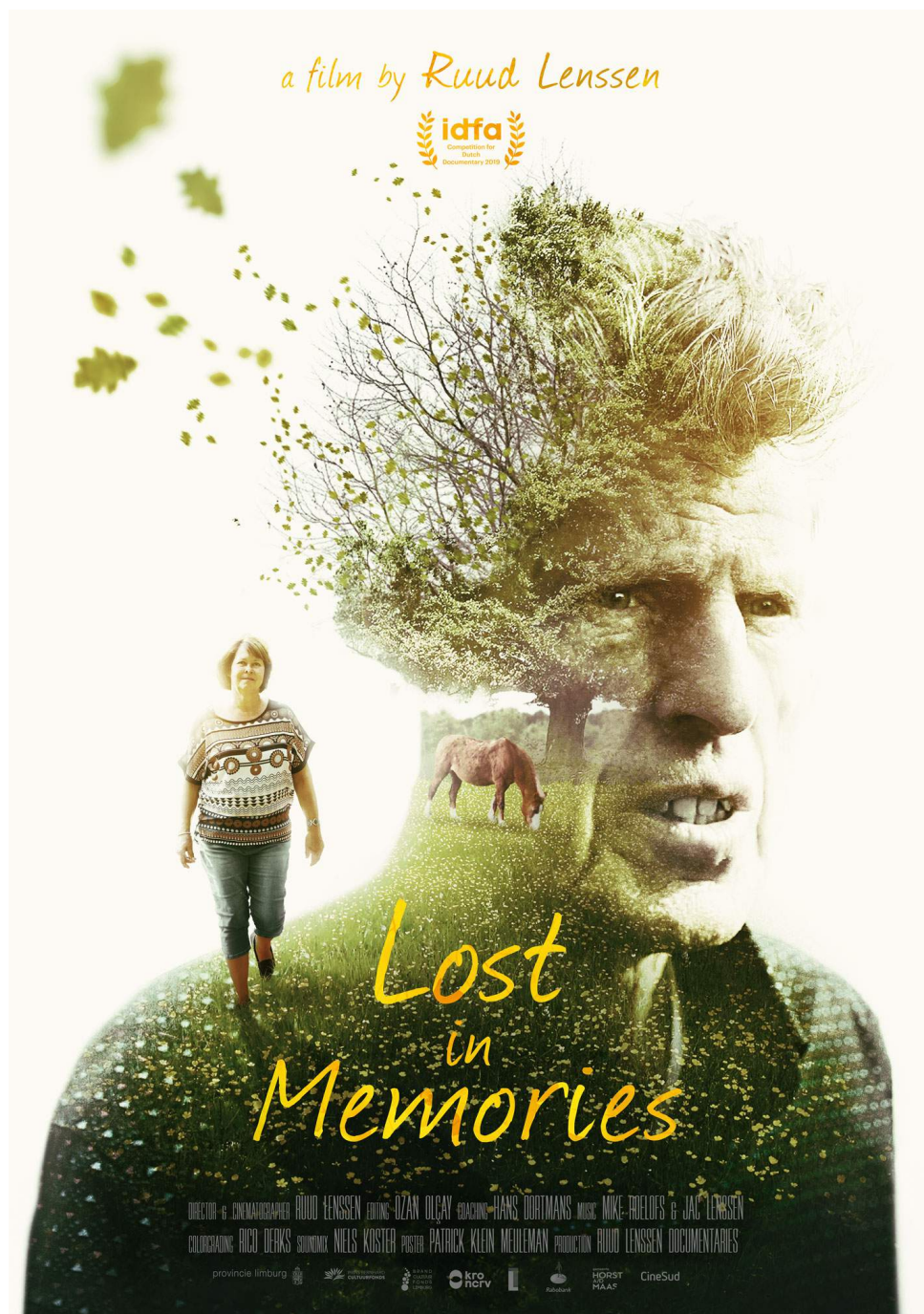
Click to download high resolution stills.





# POSTER & PHOTOS

Click to download high resolution files.







# CREDITS

Director & cinematographer	Ruud Lenssen
scenario	Ruud Lenssen
scenarioadvice	John Appel
coaching	Hans Dortmans
editing	Ozan Olçay
additional editing	Ruud Lenssen
composition & piano	Mike Roelofs
organ, trumpet & harmonica	Jac Lenssen
cello	Rogier Hornman
clarinet & bass clarinet	Piotr Torunski
recordings	Pieter Koster
additional sound	Lars Henderiks
soundmix	Olivier Nijs
	Niels Koster
	Hans Brouwer
dronecamera & lens whacking	Martijn Schoeber
super8 + VHS digitization	Hay Janssen
colorgrading	Rico Derks
title animation	Jack Baeten
filmposter	Patrick Klein Meuleman
subtitling	Einion Media
production	Ruud Lenssen Documentaries
co-production	Hans Heijnen



A photograph of a woman with short brown hair, wearing a dark blue tank top, standing in a kitchen. She is looking slightly to the left of the camera with a neutral expression. In the background, there is a white refrigerator on the left and a kitchen counter with a sink and a range hood on the right. The word "CONTACT" is overlaid in large, white, sans-serif capital letters on the left side of the image.

# CONTACT

## MAIN EMAIL

[info@ruudlenssen.nl](mailto:info@ruudlenssen.nl)

## PRESS & BOOKINGS

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## DIRECTOR | PRODUCER

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