

— **EVEREST – SUMMIT OF DESIRE** —
a film by François Damilano
with Sophie Lavaud

Everest – Summit of Desire follows in the footsteps of Sophie Lavaud as she attempts to reach the summit of the “Roof of the World”. Sophie is our guiding thread during a two-month interlude from everyday life in the shadow of the legendary north face of Mount Everest, battered by the furious winds that blow across the long summit ridge.

Setting off to climb the highest mountain on Earth is a great adventure and a huge personal commitment. We accompany Sophie to find out what this adventure involves. But we also explore the “desire for Everest”, a desire that arises from a yearning for change or to achieve an absolute and which extends far beyond the mountaineering community.

Everest – Summit of Desire provides a day-by-day account of the uncompromising journey to very high altitude, thereby revealing the constant tension between personal qualities (determination, fortitude, strength of mind, belief, abnegation, patience) and the outside world, which, for a time, is reduced to the icy slopes of Mount Everest (8,850 m).

Everest – Summit of Desire reveals what climbing the world’s highest mountain is really like and shows how modern expeditions give amateur mountaineers the chance to realise their desire for Everest.

Everest – Summit of Desire includes outstanding footage of an ascent of the Tibetan route to Everest.

Putting an ascent of the Roof of the World into perspective.

Although it is now 50 years since the first ascent, climbing Everest remains a difficult and dangerous undertaking. The thinness of the air almost 9,000 metres above sea level means that scaling the world’s highest peak is a uniquely arduous experience, challenging for the mind and potentially traumatic for the body.

By accepting the presence of the camera, which she in no way solicited, Sophie Lavaud allows us to share her dream of Everest.

Film 52’

Format 16/9

Production François Damilano / Nomade Productions

Sophie Lavaud is a consultant and amateur mountaineer based in Geneva. After Shishapangma (8,027 m) and Cho Oyu (8,201 m) in the spring of 2012, Everest was her third 8,000-m peak.

Mountain guide and filmmaker **François Damilano** immerses the viewer in the reality of high-altitude mountaineering while using his unique position as an “observer-participant” to provide food for thought.

DVD on: commande@jmeditations.fr

VOD or streaming: vimeo.com/ondemand/everest

Contact :

François Damilano : +33 (0)6 74 90 41 91 – f.damilano@wanadoo.fr

Nomade Productions : www.nomadeprodfilm.com