

10 BIS 20 HALDEN

Ten to Twenty Spoil Heaps

A film by Emerson Culurgioni

Essay film | 2026 | 27 min | Colour | 16:9 | Stereo | DCP

DOK Leipzig 2026

SYNOPSIS

TECHNICAL DETAILS

ORIGINAL TITLE	10 bis 20 Halden
ENGLISH TITLE	Ten to Twenty Spoil Heaps
GENRE	Essay film, documentary
COUNTRY / YEAR	Germany, 2026
RUNNING TIME	27 min
FORMAT	Colour, 16:9, stereo, DCP
LANGUAGE	German (voice-over), English subtitles
LOCATION	Mansfelder Land, Saxony-Anhalt
FESTIVAL	DOK Leipzig 2026

SYNOPSIS

“10 to 20 Spoil Heaps” documents the spoil heaps left behind by the former copper-shale mining industry in the Mansfelder Land. Between documentary observation and experimental approaches, the film gathers what has accumulated over time: the founding legend of a knight who claims as much land as he can encircle with a thin trail of barley; mine shafts that were given new names; a flower growing on slag. From there, the film follows that trail to the terrikons of the Donbas, where drones that once mapped ore veins now search for enemy tanks. It asks what homeland means when the land one identifies with no longer exists—or when the ground on which that identity is built has become unstable.



CREDITS

CREW

DIRECTOR, CAMERA, SOUND, SOUND DESIGN, EDITING	Emerson Culurgioni
PRODUCER, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR & DISTRIBUTION	Valentyna Zalevska
SOUND MIX	Florian Marquardt
SOUND STUDIO	Sven Kästner
PRODUCTION DRIVER	Roberto Culurgioni
MUSIC	Müllstation – “Ich Bin Der Punk Rock König vom Mansfelder Land” (1993) Courtesy of Hardy/Höhnie Records
ARTISTIC ADVISORS	Oliver Moser, Federico Neri, Stefanie Schroeder, Daniel Künzler, Nick Teplov

PRODUCTION AND FUNDING

Commissioned by Agentur für Aufbruch (AfA), with kind support from Werkleitz. Funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy on the basis of a decision by the German Bundestag.



DIRECTOR

BIOGRAPHY

Emerson Culurgioni studied Media Art at the Academy of Fine Arts Leipzig (HGB) and completed the Werkleitz Masterclass in Halle. His films LEUNA (2014), HABITAT (2017) and LA DUNA (2023) had their world premieres at Visions du Réel, Nyon. His documentary and essayistic films examine extraction, post-industrial landscapes, questions of migration and identity, military zones and media infrastructures. LA DUNA combines documentary and essayistic-fictional approaches into a hybrid feature film. He was most recently a fellow of the Agentur für Aufbruch and of the Junge Akademie at the Akademie der Künste Berlin. He taught at Bard College Berlin (The Essay Film as Documentary Strategy, 2023) and is currently an Artistic Research Fellow in the research group “Energy – Digital & Decentral” at Merseburg University of Applied Sciences. He has also produced film installations in various collaborations.

FILMOGRAPHY

2014 **LEUNA**
13 min, short documentary, with Jonas Matauschek (Visions du Réel)

2015 **DREI WEGE**
30 min, experimental essay film, with Jonas Matauschek and Nicolas Rossi

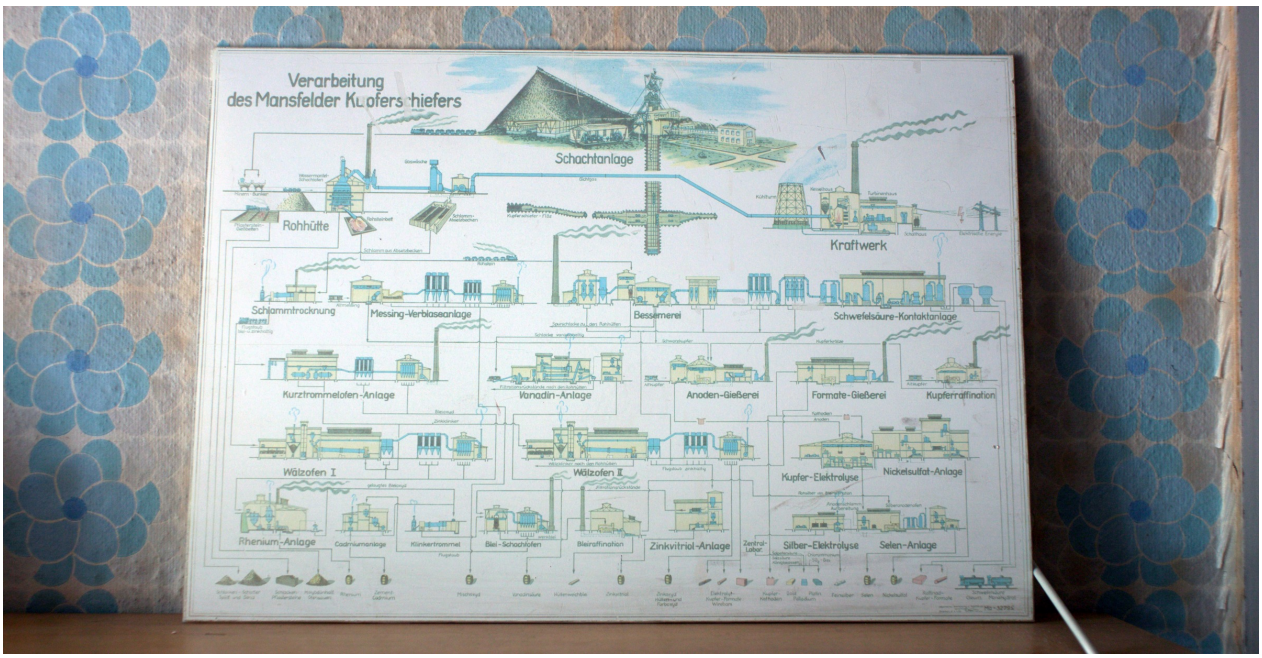
2017 **HABITAT**
79 min, documentary, with Jonas Matauschek (Visions du Réel)

2020 **AUSBEUTUNG, ODER WIE MAN DIE OBERFLÄCHE DURCHBRICHT**
15 min, in collaboration with Clemens von Wedemeyer

2023 **LA DUNA**
93 min, experimental documentary, with Stefanie Schroeder (Visions du Réel)

2025 **CONFIGURATION DRIFT**
69 min, in collaboration with Viktor Brim

2026 **10 BIS 20 HALDEN**
27 min, essay film (DOK Leipzig 2026)



FILM STILLS





























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Ten to Twenty Spoil Heaps

CONTACT

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