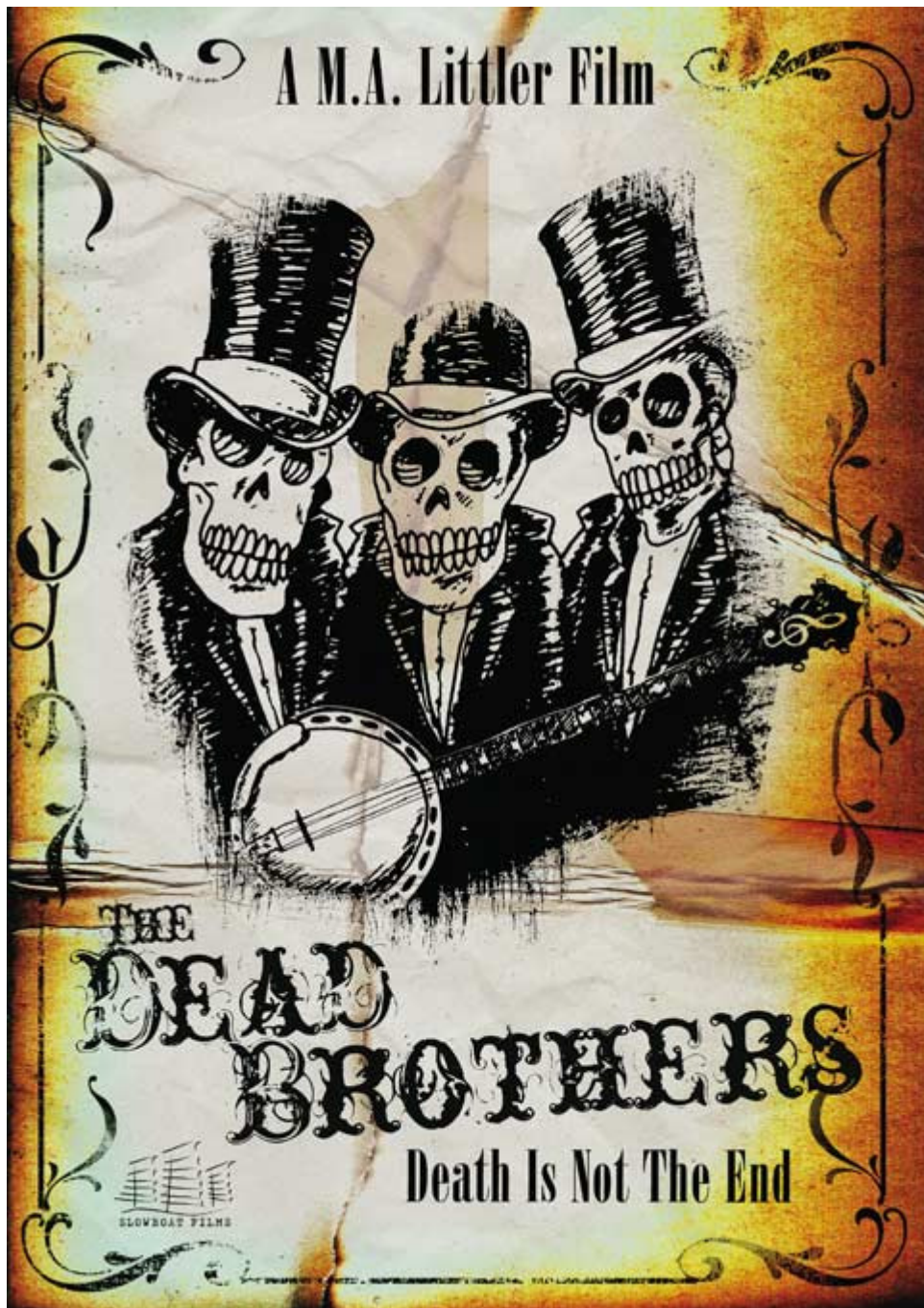


*presents*



## *Synopsis*

### ***THE DEAD BROTHERS - Death Is Not The End***

THE DEAD BROTHERS – Death Is Not The End is the intimate portrait of three musicians that couldn't be any more different.

Alain Croubalian, son of an Armenian Immigrant and a Swiss nurse, Pierre Omer, son of an Indian Historian and a Genevan mother, as well as Delaney Davidson, a New Zealand native Troubadour and world traveller are the core of one of the most idiosyncratic and unique bands of our time – THE DEAD BROTHERS.

This film however is not merely a music documentary; it's rather an exploration of their individual personalities and how their unique biographies have shaped their music.

Alain Croubalian explains what impact the Armenian genocide and the resulting Diaspora had on his family and ultimately on his personal development. He also describes how his life as an immigrant in N. American resulted in his die hard nonconformist stance.

Pierre Ohmer offers a melancholic and at times ironic insight into his creative process and his personal battle between irony and tragedy.

Delaney Davidson openly discusses his own mortality and which role humour plays in dealing with it.

The bands' music reflects their Babylonian biographies;

Blues meets Chanson, Gypsy Swing meets Vaudeville and Brecht & Weil go for a drink with Hank Williams somewhere in St. Pauli, New York or Marseille.

The bands' provocative yet cheerful performances have meanwhile achieved world wide cult status.

The film shows the band not only on stage at large clubs but also joins them at spontaneous street concerts and jam sessions.

To wrap it all up, we'd like to say we believe to have made a paradoxal film, a balancing act between melancholy and exuberance, as well as existential questions and black slapstick humour.

“The Dead Brothers welcome you on board the ghost train...”

## *Synopsis (German)*

# ***THE DEAD BROTHERS – Death Is Not The End***

THE DEAD BROTHERS – Death Is Not The End ist das Portrait dreier Männer die unterschiedlicher nicht sein könnten.

Alain Croubalian, Sohn eines armenischen Immigranten und einer Schweizer Krankenschwester, Pierre Ohmer, Sohn eines indischen Historikers und einer Genferin, sowie der Neuseeländische Troubadour und Weltenbummler Delaney Davidson bilden den Kern einer der ungewöhnlichsten Bands unserer Zeit – THE DEAD BROTHERS.

Der Film ist keine reine Musikdokumentation, vielmehr geht es darum welchen Einfluss die jeweiligen Biografien der drei Protagonisten auf Ihre Musik haben.

Alain Croubalian erläutert welche Auswirkung der armenische Genozid und die daraus resultierende Diaspora auf seine Familie und somit auf seine persönliche Entwicklung gehabt haben und beschreibt sein Heranwachsen als Immigrant in Nord Amerika und seinen daraus entstandenen unbeugsamen Nonkonformismus.

Pierre Omer gibt einen melancholisch, ironischen Einblick in seinen kreativen Prozess und seine eigene Zerrissenheit zwischen Ironie und Tragik.

Delaney Davidson spricht offen über den Tod und welche Rolle der Humor in seiner persönlichen Auseinandersetzung mit dem Thema spielt.

Die Musik der Band spiegelt die babylonischen Biografien der Protagonisten wieder.

Blues trifft auf Chanson, Gypsy Swing auf Vaudeville Cabaret und Brecht und Weil trinken gemeinsame mit Hank Williams in einer Hafenbar in St. Pauli oder Marseille.

Die provokant, jedoch herzliche Live Performance der Band hat mittlerweile weltweiten Kultstatus erreicht.

Der Film zeigt die Band jedoch nicht nur bei großen Clubkonzerten, sondern auch bei spontanen Straßenauftritten und verschiedenen Jamsessions.

Abschließend sei gesagt, dieser Film versteht sich als Paradoxon und als Drahtseilakt zwischen Melancholie und Ausgelassenheit, sowie existenziellen Fragen und schwarzem Humor.

“We welcome you on board the ghost train...”

## *The Dead Brothers Story*

The Dead Brothers, more or less what's left of a symphony orchestra after their car crashed today. Some heavy metal wind instruments (Tubas, trombones and bass saxophone) a megaphone and a top hat, a nasty French accordion and some sweet lap steel country.

Bringing rock 'n' roll back to Europe by exploring the musical roots that led to it's birth or what would the European music that led to rock 'n' roll, sound like today?

They make Satie rhyme with The Birthday Party, and The Saints singing Besame Mucho. They're a macabre rock 'n' roll party and an old fashioned wedding at the same time. Need your sense of humour when they stage gruesome deaths singing Hank Williams and Jimmie Rodgers. The Cramps wrote they liked their rendering of Human Fly. The Jon Spencer Blues Explosion and Tom Waits got their records. Thomas Wydler of the Bad Seeds says their Tod Von Basel penned in the 16th century sounds pretty nasty. Toured tons with Bob Log III and England with T-Model Ford the tale dragger from Greenville, and they know personally the Reverend Beat-man himself. They are fans of The Kift, famous Dutch surrealist jazz family. The Dead Brothers sing blues tunes out of ancient Europe (Totentanz) and famous Cajun-core French Swing from Bombay. They've been called THE BEST FUNERAL ORCHESTRA along with tubas and electric guitar and the most bizarre act to have appeared in Europe. Felt at home in Russia, but go as much as possible to the Swiss mountains.

Some say they are paradoxal. Difficult to get along with. Try good food.

They started staging a travelling doctor selling some potion from table to table, storming cafes with the well-named Cirque Electrique. They wrote a musical about ...death played on a boat during the Swiss national exhibition in 2002, "Day of the Dead" featured Eleni Mandell, DJ Khan, Reverend Beat-Man and the whole dead family.

After "Dead Music for Dead People" and "Day of the Dead", the third Dead Brothers record is the soundtrack to the movie "Flammend' Herz", which is about old German men covered with tattoos. It was recorded in the backstage of theatres in Switzerland, and an old Swiss German radio station. In Theatre too, they got hired to sing songs about death in plays directed by Meret Matter at the Schauspielhaus in Zurich, then under Christoph Marthaler's direction.

Look forward to play Brecht and Weil's Four Penny Opera at the Basler Opera under the direction of Lars Ole Warburg.

You can hire us for circus acts and bar-mitsvahs, with The Dead Brothers every concert turns out to be a surprise. Some hate it. But again, they do funerals, not birthday parties.

Remember: Rien ne donne plus l'impression de l'infini que la bêtise! Odon Von Orvath

## *Crew*

Writer /Director.....M.A. Littler  
Cinematography..... Fadil Polisi, Philip Koepsell & Sinead Gallagher  
Producer .....David Meves  
Sound..... David Meves  
Editors..... Alexander Schnell  
Grafik.....Daniel Tripp  
Post -Audio.....Michael Kadelbach

## *Tech. Specs*

TITLE: THE DEAD BROTHERS – DEATH IS NOT THE END  
PRODUCTION COMPANY: SLOWBOAT FILMS  
DURATION: 90 Min.  
LANGUAGE: English with optional Germany subtitles  
FORMAT: DIGI BETA, BETA SP, DV CAM & DVD

