

renewable energy living green
Green Energy Week
Edinboro University



Join us for other events this week!

Tuesday, December 1, 7-8:30 p.m.

Green Energy Job Panel

Pogue Student Center Multipurpose Room A

Wednesday, December 2, 7:30-9 p.m.

“No Impact Man”: An Evening with Colin Beavan

Pogue Student Center Multipurpose Room

Thursday, December 3, 4:30-7:30 p.m.

Green Energy Fair

Pogue Student Center Multipurpose Room

Thursday, December 3, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Green Energy Workshops

Pogue Student Center's Rooms 303A, B, C & 310

Friday, December 4, 11 am-2 p.m.

Green Cars / Hybrid Test Drives

Pogue Student Center parking lot (meet in the Pogue Lobby).

Tuesday to Thursday, December 1-3, 5 p.m. & Friday, December 4, 6 p.m.

“FUEL” the movie

Pogue Student Center Scot Theater

Special screening of this movie made possible by the generosity of...

Irvin P. Gable, Jr.
Class of 2005



THE AGE OF STUPID

Monday, November 30, 2009



The new cinema documentary from Director **Franny Armstrong** (*McLibel*, *Drowned Out*) and Oscar-winning Producer **John Battsek** (*One Day In September*, *In The Shadow of the Moon*).

Pete Postlethwaite stars as an old man living alone in the devastated world of 2055, looking at “archive” footage from 2008, asking: why didn't we stop climate change when we had the chance?

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Either we seriously tackle climate change or we wipe out most life on Earth. The future of our species and everything we have ever achieved is at stake, so it's not a tricky decision, as a filmmaker, to decide which subject to work on. The original plan, back in 2002, was to borrow the structure of Stephen Soderbergh's movie "*Traffic*": six human stories on all sides of a complex international issue. "*Traffic*" was fiction/drugs and "Crude" (working title) was going to be documentary/oil.

I hooked up with producer John Battsek and agreed we needed a decent budget to make such an ambitious film, but that we also wanted to remain utterly independent. So we came up with a scheme we called "crowd-funding". The complete budget of 450,000 UK pounds was raised by selling "shares" to individuals and groups – including a hockey team and a health centre – who care about climate change. Our 228 investors gave between 500 and 35,000 pounds and each own a percentage of profits of the film, as do the crew, who worked at massively reduced rates. Which leaves us in the powerful position of owning all the rights. My first two films – "*McLibel*" and "*Drowned Out*" – have together been watched by 55 million viewers worldwide, and we are planning to smash that record with Stupid. After three years simultaneously following six different stories in six wildly-different locations - New Orleans, Nigeria, UK, The Alps, India, Jordan – we held some test screenings of the rough cut. This was May 2007. Disaster. Only people obsessed with climate change could understand all our subtle links. To everyone else it was a hodgepodge of random stories.

After despairing a while, I decided to introduce a fictional character, living in 2055, when the planet has been devastated and hundreds of millions of people killed. He is trawling through "archive" footage from now, trying to work out why we didn't stop climate change when we still had the chance. There was only ever one actor in my mind and when I googled "Pete Postlethwaite + climate change" and learnt he was setting up a wind turbine in his garden, I thought we might just have a hope of persuading him...

Al Gore's film "*An Inconvenient Truth*" did a fantastic job at bringing the public up-to-speed on the science of climate. "*The Age of Stupid*" takes the baton from Gore and examines the moral, psychological and human consequences of our current way of life.

We calculated the film's carbon footprint by recording every journey - by foot, bicycle, motor boat, rowing boat, plane, train, car, rickshaw and helicopter - as well as all the electricity, gas, food and equipment used. It added up to 94 tonnes, which is equivalent to four Americans for a year or 185 patio heaters for a month. I definitely think our film is worth 185 patio heaters.

BASICS

Director	Franny Armstrong
Producer	Lizzie Gillett
Executive Producer	John Battsek
Composer	Chris Brierley
Production Companies	Spanner Films & Passion Pictures
Starring	Pete Postlethwaite + 5 doc characters
Running Time	85 mins
Genre	Documentary - Drama - Animation
Subject	Climate change, oil, war & human stupidity
Locations	America, UK, India, Nigeria, Iraq, Jordan, The Alps
Shot on	HD & HDV
Screening Format	35mm, HDcam, Diggie Beta
Website	www.ageofstupid.net

SYNOPSIS

'The Age Of Stupid' is the new documentary-drama-animation hybrid from Director Franny Armstrong (*McLibel*, *Drowned Out*) and Oscar-winning Producer John Battsek (*One Day In September*, *Live Forever*, *In the Shadow of the Moon*). Oscar-nominated Pete Postlethwaite (*In The Name of the Father*, *Brassed Off*, *The Usual Suspects*) stars as an old man living in the devastated world of 2055. He watches 'archive' footage from 2008 and asks: Why didn't we stop climate change when we had the chance?

Runaway climate change has ravaged the planet by 2055. Pete plays the founder of The Global Archive, a storage facility located in the (now melted) Arctic, preserving all of humanity's achievements in the hope that the planet might one day be habitable again. Or that intelligent life may arrive and make use of all that we've achieved. He pulls together clips of "archive" news and documentary from 1950->2008 to build a message showing what went wrong and why. He focuses on six human stories:

-**Alvin Duvernay**, is a paleontologist helping Shell find more oil off the coast of New Orleans. He also rescued more than 100 people after Hurricane Katrina, which, by 2055, is well known as one of the first "major climate change events".

-**Jeh Wadia** in Mumbai aims to start-up a new low-cost airline and gets a million Indians flying.

-**Layefa Malemi** lives in absolute poverty in a small village in Nigeria from which Shell extracts tens of millions of dollars worth of oil every week. She dreams of becoming a doctor, but must fish in the oil-infested waters for four years to raise the funds.

-**Jamila Bayyoud**, aged 8, is an Iraqi refugee living on the streets of Jordan after her home was destroyed - and father killed - during the US-led invasion of 2003. She's trying to help her elder brother make it across the border to safety.

-**Piers Guy** a windfarm developer from Cornwall fighting the NIMBYs of Middle England.

-**Fernand Pareau** 82-year-old French mountain guide has witnessed his beloved Alpine glaciers melt by 150 metres.