



PAT PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

# SUNKEN ROADS

## THREE GENERATIONS AFTER D-DAY

Running time.....	93 minutes
Genre.....	Documentary
Languages.....	English, French
Country of Origin.....	United States
Links.....	Official website: <a href="http://sunkenroads.com">sunkenroads.com</a> Trailer: <a href="https://vimeo.com/424135676">https://vimeo.com/424135676</a> Social Media: @sunkenroadsdoc Hashtag: #sunkenroads





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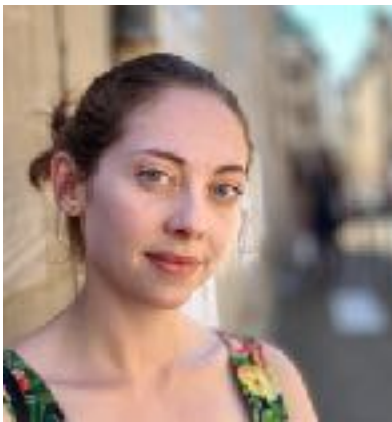
# SYNOPSIS

Don McCarthy was 20 years old on D-Day, when his infantry division landed on Omaha Beach in 1944. Don and the other veterans who survived D-Day will someday soon have passed into memory and legend. This realization inspires 20-year-old filmmaker Charlotte Juergens to join Don and seven other D-day vets on a journey to France - a commemorative pilgrimage to Omaha Beach for the 70th anniversary of the invasion.

The vets come to see Charlotte as a granddaughter, trusting her with their stories as they confront the trauma that still haunts them 70 years after the war. In capturing their lives, Charlotte's film offers a new, intergenerational perspective on D-Day, presenting the memories of 90-year-old combat veterans through the eyes of a 20-year-old woman.

## CREW

### CHARLOTTE JUERGENS (DIRECTOR & CO-PRODUCER)



Charlotte is a documentary filmmaker, archival producer, and history scholar from Brooklyn, NY. *Sunken Roads: Three Generations After D-Day* is her first feature-length film. Charlotte's experience as an archival researcher includes two years at NBC News Archives, where she collaborated with documentarians and curators to research and license archival footage for films and exhibitions. Her independent archival work ranges from the Oscar-nominated short documentary *Joe's Violin* to the Connecticut State Library's Remembering World

War I centennial commemoration project. She holds degrees in History from Yale and the University of Chicago and started her Ph.D. at the University of Michigan in 2021.

### LYDIA ROBERTSON (CO-PRODUCER & COLORIST)

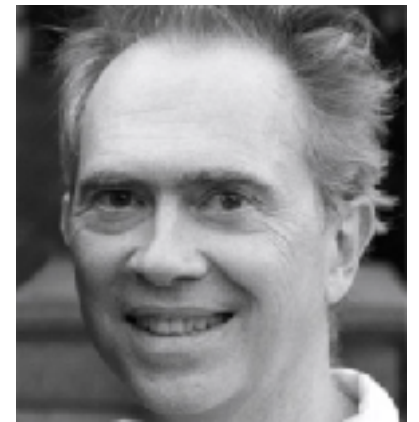
Over the course of Lydia's 30-year career in film and television, Lydia has worn many hats of all shapes and sizes. Her efforts as a producer, fundraiser, director, news and documentary film editor, sound editor, audio and video engineer, rock photographer, and lighting designer have resulted in many international and domestic awards, including



numerous Emmys and one Oscar. Lydia's most recent projects include YASUNI MAN, an award-winning feature documentary; SOLD, an award-winning dramatic feature; 79 PARTS, a comedy feature; and NBC Network News shows such as Nightly News, Dateline, and the Today Show. Lydia's grandfather Pat, a D-Day veteran and central figure in Sunken Roads, inspired and influenced her more than words can say.

## **MARK JUERGENS (EDITOR)**

Mark has been a filmmaker in New York since 1982. His work as an editor has allowed him to stumble into documentary and feature films, music videos, episodic television and all sorts experimental video weirdness. Recently, he spent six years as the Senior Series Editor for *How Democracy Works Now*, as well as editing six of these feature length films. Forbes called the series "The Greatest Films On Government Ever Made." Some of his projects have aired on HBO, Comedy Central, MTV, Bravo, A&E, Discovery, History Channel, MSNBC, Logo, Lifetime and PBS. Films he's edited have screened at Sundance, the New York Film Festival, South by Southwest, DocNYC and Berlinale. Many have won awards and had theatrical distribution.



## **JORDAN PLOTNER (COMPOSER)**



Jordan Plotner is a British/American award-winning composer and writer based in Los Angeles. His music has appeared in over forty films, television shows, and commercials worldwide, and his concert music has been premiered in New York, Los Angeles, London, Beijing, Shanghai, Kuala Lumpur, and Malta. He has worked with esteemed film composers Marco Beltrami and Joe Trapanese, and has worked on projects for artists ranging from Hans Zimmer and

Angelina Jolie to Daft Punk. In 2017 he graduated from Yale University cum laude in American Studies.

## **MARK SUOZZO (COMPOSER)**

Mark is a Visiting Associate Professor of Film Scoring in the Department of Music at NYU. His career has included work as a





composer, guitarist, orchestrator and conductor, and he has scored many feature films and documentaries for award-winning filmmakers. His work for television includes scores for the Hallmark Channel, HBO, and PBS's American Experience, POV and Independent Lens. His original music has been performed at The Summer Olympics and The Goodwill Games. As an arranger, Suozzo's work includes recordings for Creed, Aretha Franklin, Britney Spears, Vanessa Williams and Jaheim. Suozzo's original works have been performed at major venues from Carnegie Hall to the Blue Note.

## CHARACTERS

**DON MCCARTHY** grew up in Boston and joined the 29th Infantry Division in England in early 1944 as a member of the 116th Infantry's 1st Battalion. His landing craft capsized on D-Day, and later on he was wounded on Omaha Beach. He worked for Bell Telephone for more than three decades after the war and lived in Rhode Island.



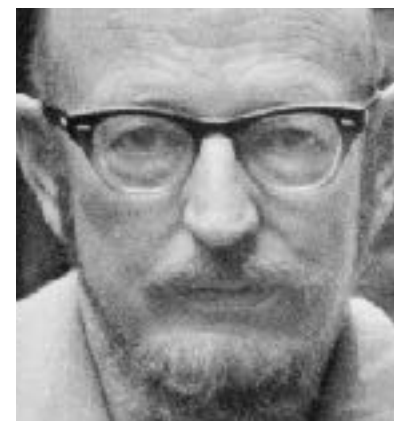
**SUZETTE GANDON** grew up near the commune of Juaye-Mondaye in Calvados, Normandy, where she experienced D-Day as a child. Suzette's grandfather served in the French Army during WWI, and her father was a prisoner-of-war during WWII. Suzette remains in Juaye-Mondaye, where she lives in a restored thirteenth-century farmhouse near her childhood home.

**ARDEN EARLL** is a Pennsylvania native who landed on Omaha Beach in the first minutes of the D-Day invasion as a member of Company H, 116th Infantry, 29th Division. He was awarded two Purple Hearts for war wounds. After the war he settled in Erie, Pennsylvania, and worked for the U.S. Postal Service.



**HAL BAUMGARTEN** is a native of New York City who took pre-med courses at New York University before being drafted. He joined the 29th Infantry Division in February 1944 and was wounded on Omaha Beach in the first minutes of the D-Day invasion as a member of Company B, 116th Infantry. He gained an M.D. degree after the war and currently resides in Florida.

**PARKER (PAT) DAVIE HANNA JR.** served as a war correspondent for *Stars and Stripes* during WWII and engaged in intelligence work for the US Army. Pat attached himself to the 29th Infantry Division shortly after D-Day and earned a Distinguished Service Cross for heroism in action outside of Saint-Lô. His granddaughter Lydia and great-granddaughter Charlotte are, respectively, the Co-Producer and Director of *SUNKEN ROADS*.



## **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENTS**

### **GENERAL STATEMENT**

I shot *Sunken Roads* when I was twenty years old. When the Veterans were that age, they'd trained for the D-Day invasion in Cornwall, crossed the channel to Omaha Beach, and fought to liberate French towns from German occupation. Although they were still haunted by memories of horrific carnage, these soldiers felt compelled to return to Normandy, to "make the circle", as one of them put it. I was honored to accompany them.

### **Additional paragraphs for a longer statement:**

A serendipitous series of events led me to make this film. I'd become increasingly intrigued by the story of my great grandfather, Sgt. Parker (Pat) Davie Hanna Jr., a Stars and Stripes correspondent who attached himself to the 29th Infantry Division for D-Day. In 2014, I discovered that a group of D-Day Veterans from the 29th was planning a pilgrimage to Normandy for the 70th Anniversary. One veteran named Don McCarthy needed a chaperone from England to France. If I accompanied him, I could join the whole group of 29ers on a tour through the towns they liberated.

Don and I spent four days in Cornwall, where the 29ers trained for the Normandy invasion. My most precious memories of Cornwall are of sitting with Don in the car, listening to him talk for hours about his memories of D-Day and feelings about returning to these locations. We logged many hours on the road in Normandy, and I used this time to interview Veterans. I grew particularly close with Veterans Arden Earll and Hal Baumgarten, who became major characters in the film. A month after I'd arrived with Don, I packed up my gear and said goodbye to Normandy. I was exhilarated; I had stories to tell.

## **STATEMENT REGARDING FEMALE AUDIENCES**

Through the process of test screenings, I've learned that *Sunken Roads* carries an unusual significance for many female viewers. After watching the film, numerous women have told me they were amazed to see a young woman insert herself into the male-dominated sphere of military history. These women explained that military history had never interested them before, because military narratives are almost always delivered through an ultra-masculine perspective. I have been humbled to learn that *Sunken Roads* represents a step forward in opening up this important aspect of our history to women's voices.

## **SCREENINGS & HONORS**

### **NATIONAL WWII MUSEUM, JUNE 4 - 5 2019**

Presented *Sunken Roads* on June 4 as the kickoff event for the Museum's weeklong commemorations honoring the 75th anniversary of D-Day. The Museum also screened *Sunken Roads* aboard two cruise ships off the coast of Omaha Beach on June 5. The Museum plans to incorporate *Sunken Roads* into future educational programming.

### **NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE U.S. AIR FORCE, JUNE 6 2019**

Presented *Sunken Roads* as the central event of the Museum's commemorations for the 75th anniversary of D-Day.

### **PEARL HARBOR AVIATION MUSEUM, JUNE 8 2019**

Presented *Sunken Roads* as the culminating event of the Museum's commemorations for the 75th anniversary of D-Day.

### **MIDDLEBURY NEW FILMMAKERS FESTIVAL, AUGUST 25 2019**

*Sunken Roads* chosen as an Official Festival Selection.

### **G.I. FILM FESTIVAL, SEPTEMBER 28 2019**

*Sunken Roads* nominated for Best Feature Documentary.

### **GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER, JANUARY 12 & 15, 2020**

*Sunken Roads* selected as part of the Center's 2020 "Stranger Than Fiction" series.

## **VISIONS DU RÉEL FESTIVAL, APRIL 24 - MAY 2, 2020**

*Sunken Roads* selected for the Visions du Réel Media Library.

## **FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY, MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND 2020**

Invited by FSU's Institute on World War II and the Human Experience to present *Sunken Roads* at a new conference on WWII Memory. Postponed due to COVID-19.

## **CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART, MAY 31 - JUNE 1, 2020**

Two special screenings at the Cleveland Museum of Art. Postponed due to COVID-19.

## **NORMANDIE-WORLD WAR II INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL , JUNE 5 - 7, 2020**

*Sunken Roads* awarded the prize for Outstanding Feature Documentary.

## **CARMARTHEN BAY FILM FESTIVAL , JUNE 1 - 4, 2020**

*Sunken Roads* chosen as an Official Festival Selection. Festival postponed due to COVID-19.

## **VIRTUAL SNEAK PREVIEW, JUNE 4 - JUNE 21, 2020**

Virtual sneak preview sponsored by the G.I. Film Festival, Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum, 29th Division Association, USS Midway Museum, World War II Foundation, Normandie-World War II International Film Festival, and the Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival.

## **LAEMMLE ROYAL THEATER, NOV 5 - 11, 2021**

In-person theatrical run in Los Angeles. Virtual theatrical will follow the next week.

## **APERTURE CINEMA, NOV 9, 2021**

Special one-day-only in person screening in Winston-Salem NC in honor of Veterans Day.

## **CINEMA VILLAGE, NOV 5 - 11, NOV 26 - DEC 2, 2021**

In-person theatrical run in New York City.

## **VIRTUAL CINEMA, NOV 5 - DEC 14 2021**

Virtual cinema screenings through the Laemmle Royal Theater (Los Angeles), Rafael Film Center (San Rafael, CA), Tallahassee Film Society (Tallahassee, FL), North Park Theatre (Buffalo, NY), DasFilm Fest (Corvallis, OR), Kiggins Theatre (Vancouver, WA).



# STILLS



D-Day veteran Don McCarthy, flyover at a D-Day commemoration, French reenactors in GI uniforms.





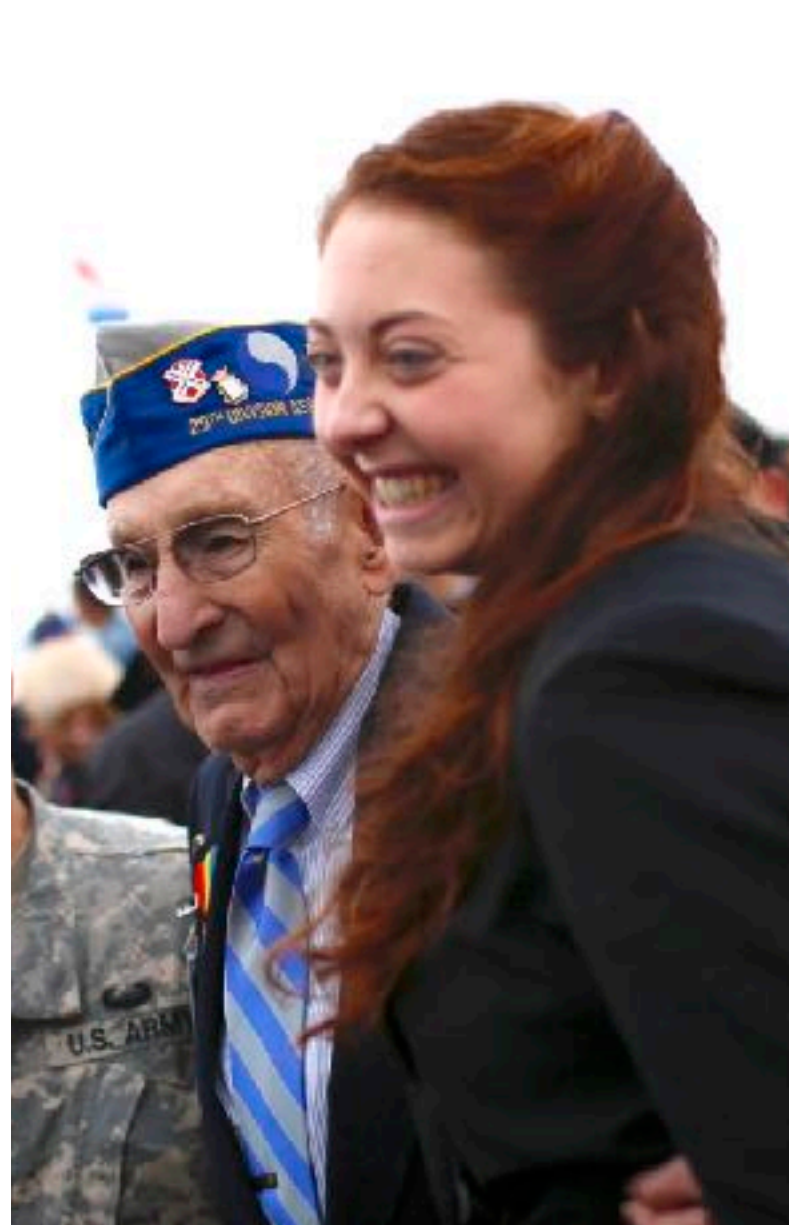
D-Day survivor Suzette Gandon, her family heirlooms, details of her 13th-century farmhouse.





Veterans Steve Melnikoff and Arden Earll, Arden, Arden and President Obama on the 70th Anniversary of D-Day (courtesy of Pete Souza), Omaha Beach.

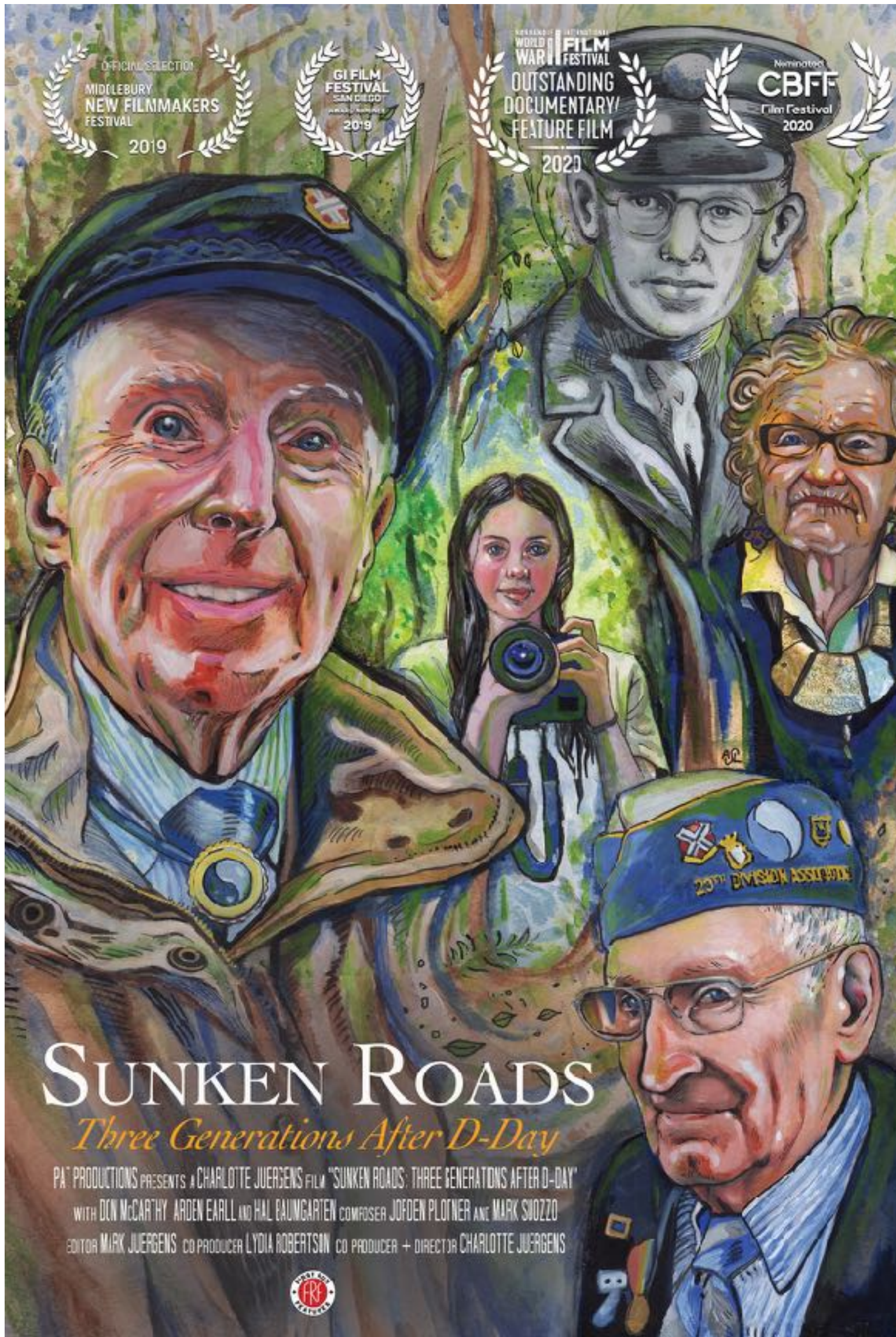




Filmmaker Charlotte Juergens, Don McCarthy and Charlotte, Arden Earll and Charlotte.



# POSTER





# PRESS

Nov 6, 2021

**Publication:** JumpCut

“Sunken Roads brings a hugely personal touch to such a massive moment in history. It is, at times, a very emotional watch.”

[Read Full Article](#)

Nov 5, 2021

**Publication:** ScreenFish

“A key question might be, what happens to the history when generations come along that are far removed from such important events? Juergens was able to absorb that history into her own life to keep it alive a bit longer.”

[Read Full Article](#)

Nov 5, 2021

**Publication:** Alliance of Women Film Journalists

“Sunken Roads, is an exploration of memory. Juergens’ mellifluous voice serves as escort as she not only describes the current and historic events but also analyzes her own ceremonial responses and familial connections. Sunken Roads adds to an understanding of history from the people in the room, on the landing craft, and on the beach.”

[Read Full Article](#)

Nov 5, 2021

**Publication:** U.S. Veterans Magazine

[Read Full Article](#)

Nov 2, 2021

**Publication:** Featuring Film

[Read Full Article](#)

September 17, 2021

**Publication:** New York Times

*New Fall Movies 2021*

“Charlotte Juergens accompanies D-Day veterans to Omaha Beach in a documentary said to take an essay-film approach akin to the work of Agnès Varda or Ross McElwee”

[Read Full Article](#)



July 9, 2020

**Publication:** Saturday Evening Post

*Seriously Good Films for a Sulky Summer*

"In a disarmingly sweet film that is part historical documentary, part home movie, Juergens provides the men with a chance to make one final plea that the world not forget the things they did and saw."

[Read Full Article](#)

June 1, 2020

**Publication:** Fast Company

*Spike Lee, Run the Jewels, and 89 other pop- culture musts for June 2020*

[Read Full Article](#)

June 7, 2020

**Publication:** Voice of America (VOA) - Russian Service

[Read Full Article](#)

September 21, 2019

**Publication:** Cerebral Overload

[Read Full Article](#)

September 17, 2019

**Publication:** San Diego Entertainer

[Read Full Article](#)

September 9, 2019

**Publication:** Patch.com

[Read Full Article](#)

June 6, 2019

**Publication:** Cincinnati Public Radio WVXU

[Read Full Article](#)

June 3, 2019

**Publication:** U.S. Department of Veteran's Affairs Official Blog, VAnatage Point

[Read Full Article](#)

May 31, 2019

**Publication:** Dayton Daily News

[Read Full Article](#)

Summer Issue, 2017

**Publication:** The 29er (Military Magazine for the 29th U.S. Infantry Division)

March 11, 2016

**Publication:** The Clan Hannay Society

[Read Full Article](#)

February 29, 2016

**Publication:** The Tab Yale

[Read Full Article](#)

November 11, 2015

**Publication:** Yale Journal of International Affairs

[Read Full Article](#)



# VIDEO LINKS

**Official Trailer:**

<https://vimeo.com/424135676>

**“Our Crew” Promo Video:**

<http://www.sunkenroads.com/sunken-roads-our-crew.html>

**“What Inspired This Film” Promo Video:**

<http://sunkenroads.com/sunken-roads-what-inspired-this-film.html>

**“What Does Sunken Roads Mean?” Promo Video:**

<http://sunkenroads.com/sunken-roads-what-does-sunken-roads-mean.html>

**Director Q&A after sneak-peak screening at the National WWII Museum:**

[https://vimeo.com/341676504?utm\\_source=email&utm\\_medium=vimeo-cliptranscode-201504&utm\\_campaign=28749](https://vimeo.com/341676504?utm_source=email&utm_medium=vimeo-cliptranscode-201504&utm_campaign=28749)

# CONTACT INFORMATION

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# FULL CREDITS

## ***In Order Of Appearance***

Pat Hanna  
Charlotte Juergens  
George Bayliss  
Don McCarthy Sr.  
Bill O'Shea  
Hal Baumgarten  
Frances Sherr-Davino  
Don McCarthy Jr.  
Jim McCarthy  
Steve Melnikoff  
Arden Earll  
Suzette Gandon  
Joe Balkoski  
Michael Yannaghas  
Elaine McCarthy

## ***Narration***

Charlotte Juergens

## ***Assistant Editor***

Lydia J. Robertson

## ***Music Editor***

Mark Juergens

## ***Sound Designer***

Andrea Bella

## ***Dialogue Editor***

Michael Feuser

## ***Re-recording Mixer***

Michael Feuser

## ***Post Production Sound Studio***

Warner Brothers

## ***Sound Recordist***

Charlotte Juergens

## ***Narration Recordist***

Lydia J. Robertson

## ***Colorist***

Lydia J. Robertson

## ***Titles***

Lydia J. Robertson

## ***Graphics & Animation***

Bob Gebbie

## ***Archival Producer***

Charlotte Juergens

## ***Writer***

Charlotte Juergens

## ***Translators***

Charlotte Juergens Lydia J. Robertson  
Thomas Krause

## ***Historical Consultant***

Joe Balkoski

## ***Web Design***

West's Design Consultants

## ***Publicity***

Charlotte Juergens

## ***Legal Services***

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## ***Accountants***

Michael Heyman of the WS Group LLC  
Kifyha Mosley LLC

## ***Additional Camerawork***

Bob Endean  
Lydia J. Robertson  
Jim Laughlin

## ***Original Artwork***

Annelisa Leinbach  
Charlotte Juergens

## ***"Best Boy"***

Trevor Clark Dolan

## ***Images Courtesy Of***

Rita Baumgarten Bundesarchiv  
The Hanna Family  
Magnum Photos

The McCarthy Family

Getty Images

Brett L. Meeker

The National Archives at College Park,  
MD Michele O'Shea

Keith Rocco

White House Photographer Pete Souza  
Yale University Library Map Collection

## ***Fellow Travelers***

Leah Balkoski

Martha Barron

Richard T. Bass

Bill Clark

John Clark

Shirley Earll

Jay Garrison

Michael Hayes

Alfred Charles Jones

Jean Mignon

Henrietta Rous

The Baumgarten Family

The Blackler Family

The Gandon Family

The Gower Family

The Hibbert Family

The Jouenne Family

Brenda Sherr Morgan

Rebecca Morgan Bouita

Frances Sherr-Davino

Jody Sherr-Dulude

... and the many others who shared our  
pilgrimage

## ***Test Screeners***

Leora Auslander

Wendy Bellus

Caroline Diehl

Michelle Esrick

Margaret Homans

Kelsey Larson

Elizabeth Miles

Clara Olshansky

Jon Reisman

Moji Shabi

Skip Stout  
Frances Webb  
Edward Ball  
David Bogosian  
Gary Dolan  
Michael Hanna  
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Tess Maggio  
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Rowan Pantalena  
Garret Savage  
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Emma Banchoff  
Catherine Brabec  
Bradford Ellison  
Emily Hays  
Katherine Kirk  
John McCallum  
Anne O'Brien  
Annie Paulsen  
Lisa Scott  
Betsy Sledge  
Pete Trilling  
Stan Zucker

***Special Thanks***

29th Division Association American Air  
Power Museum Normandy Allies  
Protean Films  
The Tab Yale  
The Twenty-Niner  
Volunteer Lawyers For The Arts  
Yale Student Film Festival  
The Ascher-Kalb Family  
Bernard Borosky  
Kathleen Burton  
Peter Faries  
Travis Gonzales  
Sherman Hanna  
Elizabeth Frawley Bagley  
Andrew Bradow  
Jacky Cayman  
Alan Franco  
Ron Gregg  
Marsha Holt

Gemma Birnbaum  
Abbey Burgess  
Kaitlyn Crain Enriquez  
Daniel Glaser  
Greg Gutbezahl  
Kevin Hymel  
Zoe Kolovou  
Rodd Lawrence  
Alyssa Lovegrove  
Herman Rowland  
Sr. Doug Sherburne  
Ari Taub  
Rick Tuttle  
Frank Andrew Lawler  
Skip Lehman  
Claire Mufson  
Melissa Rudder  
Frances Sherr-Davino  
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Neil Ungerleider  
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Harry Shukman  
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Butch & Linda Welch

***Friends & Advisors***

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Jay Winter

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The McCarthy Family

Pat Productions  
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***Locations***

**England**

Exeter  
Ivybridge  
London  
Poole  
Plymouth  
Tavistock  
Trebah Gardens  
Truro  
The English Channel  
RAF Bomber Command Memorial,  
London Royal Hospital Chelsea, London

**France**

Bayeux  
Canisy  
Cherbourg-Octeville  
Falaise  
Grandcamp  
Isigny  
Juaye-Mondaye  
La Cambe  
La Chapelle de la Madeleine  
Longues-sur-Mer  
Omaha Beach  
Petit Bois de Bretel  
Saint-Clair-sur-l'Elle  
Saint-Laurent-sur-Mer  
Saint-Lô  
Vierville-sur-Mer  
Le Village Rupaley  
Vire  
Utah Beach

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Bremen

**United States of America**

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