

**GREENWICH**  
E N T E R T A I N M E N T

presents

**MAN IN THE FIELD:  
THE LIFE AND ART OF JIM DENEVAN**

In theaters and on digital September 24

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## SYNOPSIS

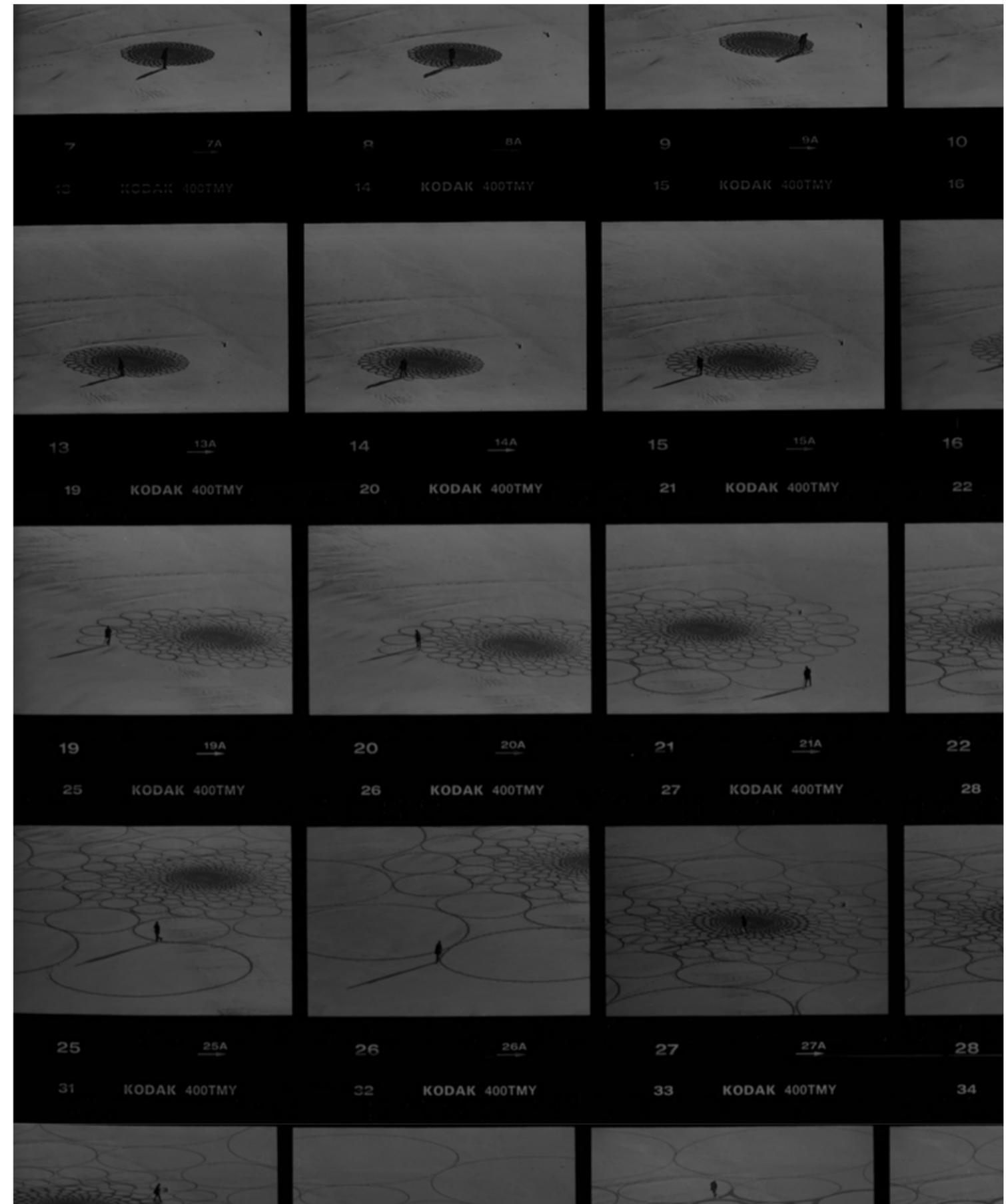
MAN IN THE FIELD profiles pioneering artist and chef Jim Denevan, founder of Outstanding in the Field, a radical alternative to the conventional dining experience. The documentary intimately reveals Denevan's artistic and culinary gifts with land art in epic geometric formations alongside grand dinners in beautiful natural settings. Instead of bringing the food to the restaurant, Outstanding in the Field has brought the restaurant to the food since 1999. Hosted at one long table, with 100 to 1000 guests dining together, Denevan has set tables in vineyards, beaches, meadows, fishing docks, and city streets. Over 120,000 lucky patrons in all 50 states and 16 countries have experienced this once-in-a-lifetime event.



# DIRECTORS STATEMENT

In 2005 I was assigned to photograph a national magazine profile on artist and chef Jim Denevan. I was captivated by his passion for both mediums as I have an extended background as a cook and a visual artist. Since then I have been grateful to have had the opportunity to document Jim's work for various projects, from print articles to short films.

Denevan was mainly known for his work through his Outstanding in the Field cross-country culinary tours. During a trip to the Berlinale in 2013 for a combined art show of our work, Jim and I decided to make a film that combines both of his disciplines, the art, and the food. Our shared passions set the stage and lead the narrative, opening up an in-depth dialogue to Jim's past and present, revealing the personal and circumstantial struggles behind his artistic gifts.





**Jim Denevan** is an artist, chef, and founder of Outstanding in the Field, the traveling restaurant without walls. His life and art are the subject of the forthcoming film *Man in the Field*, wherein director Patrick Trefz charts Denevan's experiences over a period of eight years, exploring themes of process and discovery. Through his land art, Denevan interacts with the earth's topography to create drawings of varying scale in sand, earth, and ice. He has been commissioned to create artworks across the world, both in the commercial and artistic space. Documentation of his land drawings have been exhibited at the Vancouver Sculpture Biennale, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, MoMA/PS1, and Peabody Essex Museum, among others. Through his projects, Denevan works to initiate a connection with the land and celebrate a fleeting ephemeral moment. From the tables he sets to his etchings carved into the earth, there is an element of organic impermanence at play. Denevan's work has been featured in *The New York Times Magazine*, *National Geographic*, *GQ*, *The Surfers Journal*, *Outside*, and *Conde Nast Traveler*, along with many other publications. He lives in Santa Cruz, California.







BEHIND THE CAMERA





## Director Biography PATRICK TREFZ

Patrick Trefz is an award-winning filmmaker and photographer. *Man in the Field* is his latest project, charting the life and art of Jim Denevan over a period of eight years. His work has been featured in *The New York Times*, *Surfer*, *The Surfer's Journal*, *Big*, and others. Trefz's three feature-length documentaries, *Thread*, *Idiosyncrasies*, and *Surfer's Blood*, have received widespread critical acclaim. He has published three books of photography, *Santa Cruz: Visions of Surf City*, *Thread*, and *Surfer's Blood*. His work focuses on a deep sense of place, and identity by way of environment. Through his films and photos, he deeply integrates himself in the worlds he captures—from local west coast beach towns to surf communities across the globe. He lives in Santa Cruz, California.





## Producer Biography CHRISTINE JARVIS

Christine Jarvis has been working alongside Trefz for over 8 years on both short & feature length documentary films including *Surfers Blood* (2016), *Into the Mind of Greg Long* (2014), & *Visualizing the Oceans* (2013). She brings a commitment to the importance of creating a film-study of a unique character. Jarvis, also a professional landscape architect, is impassioned with nature's patterns, farming, and food which all culminate in *Man in the Field*.



## Producer Biography ANDREAS JARITZ

Andreas Jaritz, born in 1981 in Austria, has produced and co-directed three internationally critically acclaimed and 14-times awarded documentaries before *Man in the Field: The Old, the Young and the Sea* (2012), *Beyond* (2015), and *OUTDEH* (2019). Each embrace anthropological approaches to telling people's life stories with a blender of cinéma vérité and direct cinema, combined with modern action sports cinematography. *Man in the Field* is the first collaboration between Trefz and Jaritz.



CREDITS

A FILM BY PATRICK TREFZ

IN ASSOCIATE WITH XYZ FILMS

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ANDREAS JARITZ

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PATRICK TREFZ

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JESSE CARFIELD  
STEVE AMBIEL  
CHESLEY CHAN  
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JAMES GARDNER  
LEE-ANN CURREN AND PAT CURREN  
HOD & THE HELPERS  
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IANTHA BUNYEA  
NICK HULPHERS