

DOCUMENTARY
« Ellington in Goutelas »

Laurent Lukic

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Abstract

In 1966, while in transit in Geneva at the end of a European tour in Madrid, Duke Ellington surprised everyone by deciding to make a diversion to the castle of Goutelas in Forez, located 300km from the Swiss border! A building under restoration that he had been told about a few months earlier, during his concert in Lyon. Duke will stay three days in Forez - the three best days of his life, according to Mercer, his son. Duke Ellington was to make a double contribution to the fame of Goutelas, a humanist residence from the 16th century, which was then being rebuilt by volunteers from all walks of life: firstly by his friendly and unprecedented presence, which caused the press to move in, including Paris Match, and then by composing, five years later, the Goutelas' Suite. *Une Poule sur un piano* offers to discover in music and images this work, of which the original recording numbered only 1000. This documentary, which pays tribute to Duke Ellington, is also a citizen's film which tells the story of how workers, intellectuals, farmers and artists, united in a common goal, have given new life to a ruined castle, which is now one of the twenty Centres Culturels de Rencontre in France.

Laurent Lukic



Director since 2005, Laurent Lukic has a particular attachment to human relations through his films. Documentary is for him a way to be in agreement with his social and human convictions. *Une Poule sur un Piano*, his first feature film, highlights men and women from all walks of life, brought together to rebuild a symbol of humanism: the Château de Goutelas. Duke Ellington was deeply moved by their approach and also devoted his time to it, producing the *Goutelas' Suite* in tribute to them. *Une Poule sur un Piano* won two awards at the Festival Caméra des Champs de Ville/Yron in Lorraine. Since 2010, Laurent has been travelling the world: South Africa, Morocco, Burkina Faso to make films. He collaborates with the Association Route de la Soie to document traditional fashion in countries such as Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Mongolia. Through fashion, it is the cultural and spiritual connection between East and West that is highlighted. In February 2021, he directed, for France 3, the documentary "J'Irai Créer Chez Vous" in which artists are inspired and create with the inhabitants of the Caillols district in Marseille. All these audiovisual adventures have been supported since 2014 by the production company he co-founded, Colombe Production.