

The Explorer Titti Strandberg

I met Titti for the first time in august summer 2003 on an expedition course in the north of Dalarna in Sweden. Titti and her husband Mikael were the leaders of the course and I got very fascinated by her personality from the first day.

Titti told about her experiences from all around the world and the expeditions she has done. The mental part can be very difficult on the expeditions when she have to face her fears and the hard challenges. But even if she is afraid, she forces herself to go on and every time she learns something new about herself and what her capacity is.

To be a woman on the expeditions can be very though. Titti works in a line of business dominated by men and it can be difficult to be equal with the other people in the explorers' world. Even if Sweden is a quite equality country Titti often meet people who question her work and wonder how she can expose herself with this travels and with all the risk and dangers involved. Especially when she has children and now even grandchildren.

Titti have met a whole lot of different people from different nations during her expeditions, seen various conditions of living and she has a special interest about women's life all over the world. From her expeditions Titti have gotten a deeper understanding and knowledge about woman's ordinary life in the country's she has passed through. All these things Titti told me about got me curious and I started to develop my idea of a documentary film, as a portrait of her.

I wanted to do a portrait of a strong, courageous and "normal" middle-aged women, mother and grandmother who have chosen an unusual life. After 20 years working like a nursery-school teacher, she had the courage to take the big step and change here life to be able to get out in the world, like an explorer, together with her husband Mikael. Titti describes her life, how the changes took place as she left the regular life, and the consequences that followed, as she became a professional traveller in a male dominated environment. A film about the life in a female perspective.

Production information

Title: The Explorer Titti Strandberg

Genre: Documentary portrait

Length: 58 minutes

Production time: 2003 – 2006

Producer/direction/edit: Pia Johansson

Production company: Piazzafilm

Photographer: Gunnar Zetterberg

Sound technician/interviewer: Pia Johansson

Working together with:

- Swedish Television, Björn O. Henriksson, Projects leader
- Film in Dalarna, S Inge G Jonsson, Head of department
- Länsstyrelsen in Dalarna, Equality department

Distribution

- Piazzafilm
 - Swedish Television, SVT
- Telenor Vision Intermedia AB/Filmo