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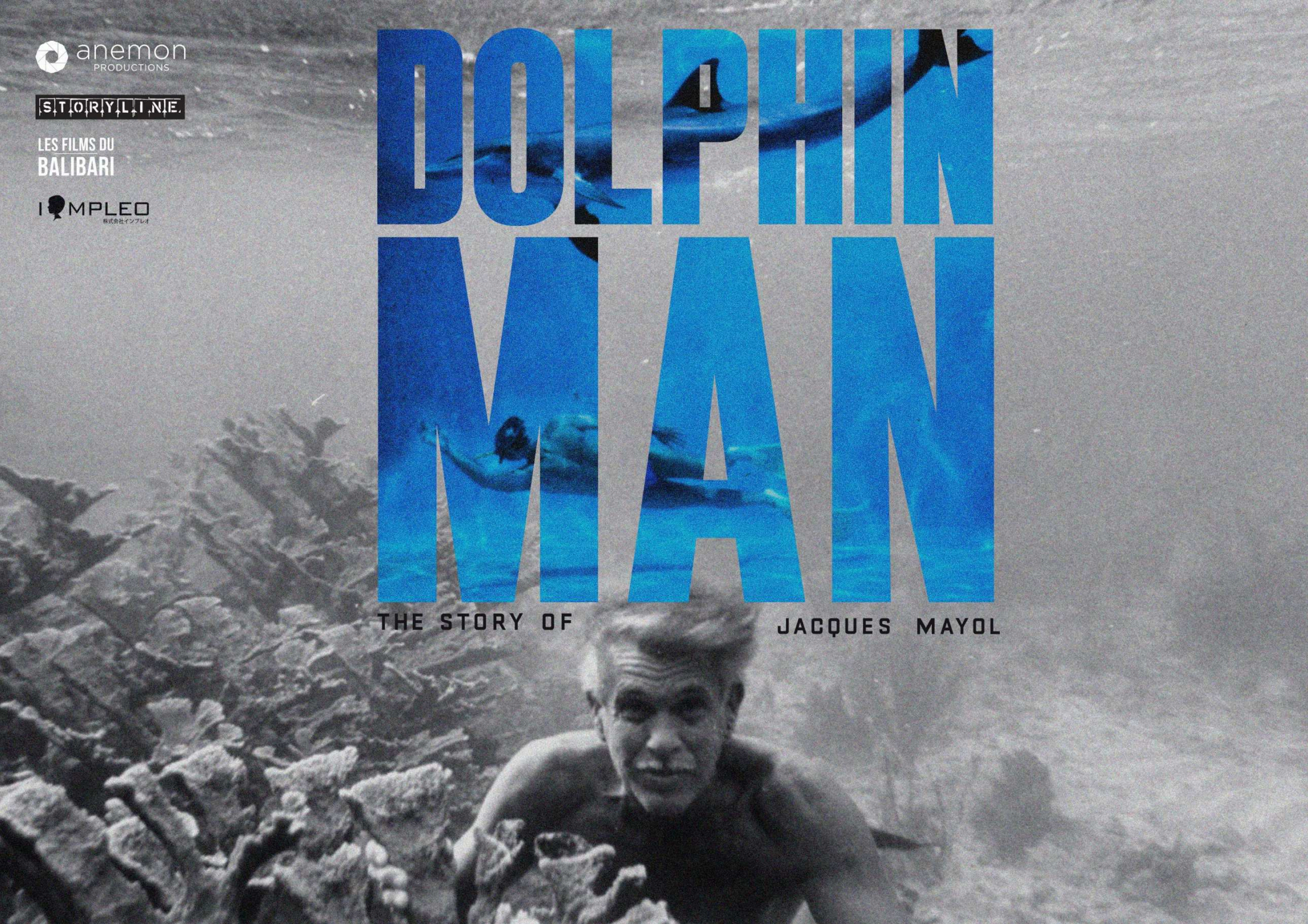
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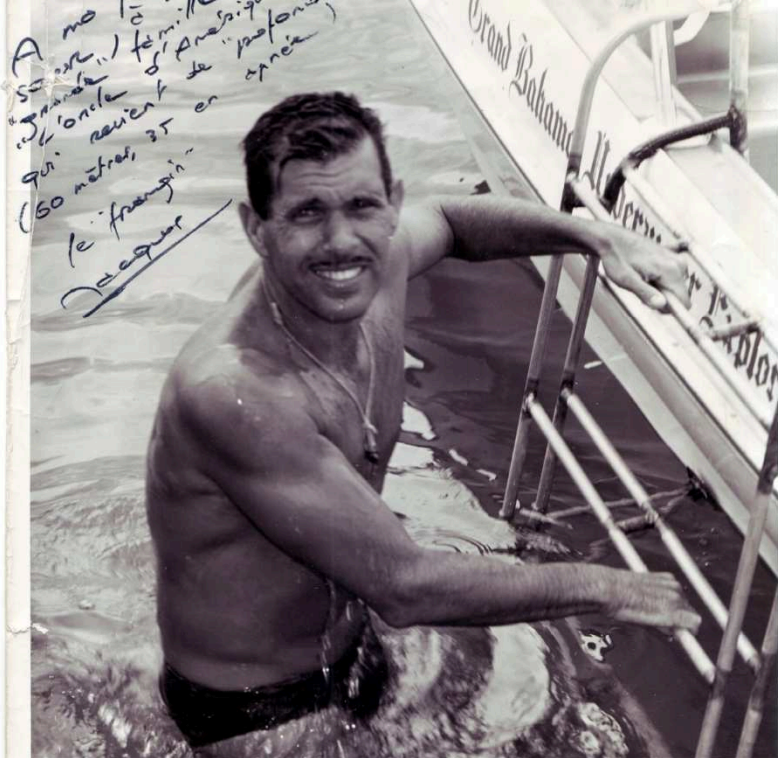
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# DOLPHIN MAN

THE STORY OF

JACQUES MAYOL





© Mayol family archive



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# DOLPHIN MAN

THE STORY OF  
JACQUES MAYOL

DOCUMENTARY BY LEFERIS CHARITOS  
 NARRATED BY JEAN-MARC BARR  
 GREECE/CANADA/France/JAPAN, 2017, 57 MN / 78 MN  
 PRODUCTION: ANEMON PRODUCTIONS, STORYLINE  
 ENTERTAINMENT, LES FILMS DU BALIBARI, IMPLIED Inc.  
 COPRODUCTION: ARTE, WOWOW, ERT, GREEK FILM CENTRE

PARTICIPATION: CNC, Pays de la Loire, Canada Media Fund, OMDC, Canadian Film or Video Production Tax Credit, OMDC Film & TV Tax Credits, ANEK Lines, Sicilian Film Commission, Creative Europe / Media.  
 IN ASSOCIATION WITH: Knowledge, TVO, Canal D, SVT, RTS, YES DBS, CYBC.  
 Shot with ANGENIEUX LENSES.

Discover the story and legacy of Jacques Mayol, the legendary free-diver whose life became the inspiration for Luc Besson's cult-movie *The Big Blue*.

*Dolphin Man* draws us into the world of Jacques Mayol, capturing his compelling journey and immersing viewers into the sensory and transformative experience of free-diving.

From the Mediterranean to Japan and from India to the Bahamas, we meet Mayol's closest friends and family, including his children Dottie and Jean-Jacques, and world free-diving champions William Trubridge, Meghan Heaney-Grier and Umberto Pelizzari, to reveal the portrait of a man who reached the limits of the human body and mind, not just to break records but hoping to discover the deeper affinity between human beings and the sea.

Narrated by Jean-Marc Barr, the actor who portrayed Mayol in *The Big Blue*, the film weaves together rare film archive with stunning contemporary underwater photography, to discover how the 'dolphin man' revolutionized free-diving and brought new consciousness to our relationship with the sea and our inner-selves.

[www.dolphinmanfilm.com](http://www.dolphinmanfilm.com)



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PRESS CONTACT ELEKTRA PEPPA [info@anemon.gr](mailto:info@anemon.gr)



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## JACQUES MAYOL - his life in brief

- |                       |   |                   |   |                     |   |
|-----------------------|---|-------------------|---|---------------------|---|
| <b>1st april 1927</b> | Born in Shanghai, he spends his childhood in the East and learns how to swim in Japan during family summer vacations.                             | <b>june 1927</b>  | He sets the <b>60m</b> free-diving record and competes against his rival, the Sicilian Enzo Maiorca.  | <b>nov. 1976</b>    | 49-year old Mayol is the first to reach <b>100 meters</b> on a single breath.           |
| <b>1939</b>           | His family settles in Marseille.  | <b>sept. 1970</b> | Izu, Japan. He sets the <b>76m</b> record. It's the beginning of a strong connection with Japan.  | <b>1983</b>         | At 56, he descends to <b>105 meters</b> .   |
| <b>1948</b>           | He marries Vibeke Boje Wadsholt and they move from Sweden to Canada and Miami. They have two children, Dottie and Jean-Jacques, before divorcing. | <b>1973</b>       | He surrounds himself with researchers, divers and technicians on Elba island, Italy and trains for his new challenge: breaking the 100-meter barrier. | <b>1986</b>         | Publication of his book <i>Homo Delphinus, the Dolphin within Man</i> .                 |
| <b>1957</b>           | He works at the Miami Seaquarium where he meets Clow, a female dolphin, and takes up free-diving.   | <b>jan. 1975</b>  | Gainesville, Florida, Tragic death of his companion, Gerda Covell, stabbed in a convenience store. She dies in his arms.                              | <b>1988</b>         | Release of Luc Besson's <i>The Big Blue</i> , starring Jean-Marc Barr as Jacques Mayol. |
|                       |   |                   |   | <b>22 dec. 2001</b> | Jacques Mayol commits suicide in his house in Capoliveri, Elba, at the age of 74.       |



DIVE



SEARCH



BREATHE

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# DOLPHIN MAN VR



3 SHORT FILMS IN 360° video directed by Benoît Lichté  
COPRODUCTION: ARTE G.E.I.E., SEPIA INTERACTIVE, WOWOW  
FRANCE / JAPAN, 2017, 3x5MN

DOLPHIN MAN VR is a companion program to the documentary.

This series of 3 short VR films in 360° video focuses on the themes of free immersion apnea, the study of cetaceans, and the importance of yoga and breathing for free-divers.

The films feature three of the most accomplished free-divers worldwide: William Trubridge, current world record holder in free-diving, Fabrice Schnöller, cetacean researcher, and Sara Campbell, yogi and world record holding free-diver.

Taking up on Jacques Mayol's pioneering vision, each of these exceptional protagonists take us on a sensory journey into the breathtakingly beautiful oceans of our planet, to explore what happens to the human body and mind in the deep dark blue of the ocean and to rediscover our relationship with the sea.

DOLPHIN MAN VR was launched on **ARTE 360 VR** (25/9/17), in parallel to the theatrical release and TV broadcast of the documentary DOLPHIN MAN - the Story of Jacques Mayol.

SEPIA  
edition@seppia.eu

MK2 SALES  
intlfest@mk2.com  
victoire.thevenin@mk2.com