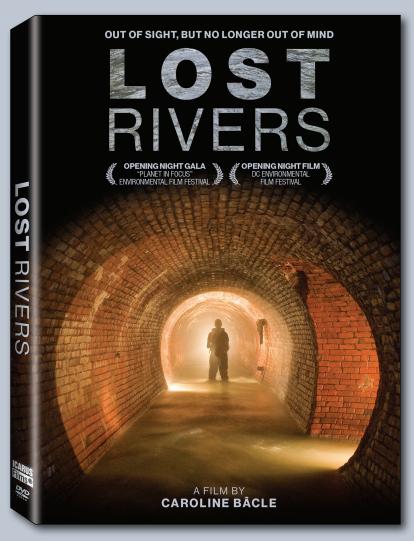


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LOST RIVERS



Nearly every major city was built near the convergence of many rivers. As cities grew with the Industrial Revolution, these rivers became conduits for disease and pollution. The 19th-century solution was to bury them underground and merge them with the sewer systems. These rivers still run through today's metropolises, but they do so out of sight.

More and more, municipal governments are recognizing the wisdom of urban explorers and making their once-buried waterways more accessible. Drawing inspiration from Seoul, whose Cheonggyecheon River was opened to the public in the early 2000s after 40 years of being hidden beneath a highway, Yonkers, New York has committed itself to "daylighting" its Saw Mill River, which has been buried under the city's downtown for the past 90 years. In London and Toronto, planners are rethinking the way they manage their rivers for environmental reasons, responding to structural problems that have to increasingly frequent flooding and sewer overflows.

As climate changes forces us to reconsider the relationship between the built environment and our natural resources, LOST RIVERS brings to life an aspect of urban ecology that has long been kept secret.

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A FILM BY CAROLINE BÂCLE





"Important as well as inspiring."

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"A fascinating look at the natural river systems that have long been buried and disrupted by urban development and what these waterways can do to make our cities more livable."

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"Ultimately hopeful...LOST RIVERS reminds us of the value of the natural world, suggesting that that world is always just a few feet away, waiting to return."

- NOW Toronto





LOST RIVERS

A film by Caroline Bâcle 72 min. / color / 16:9 / 2012 © 2012 Catbird Films

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