Multimedia Library Collection: Environmental Film Profiles (videos)

Lost Rivers

Bâcle, Caroline. *Lost Rivers*. Montreal: CatBird Productions, 2012. HD, 72 min.

> Once upon a time, in almost every industrial city, countless rivers flowed. We built houses along their banks. Our roads hugged their curves. And their currents fed our mills and factories. But as cities grew, we polluted rivers so much that they became conduits for deadly waterborne diseases like cholera, which was the 19th century's version of the Black Plague. Our solution two centuries ago was to bury rivers underground and merge them with sewer networks. Today, under the city, they still flow, out of sight and out of mind... until now. That's because urban dwellers are on a quest to reconnect with this denigrated natural world. Lost Rivers takes us on an adventure down below and across the globe, retracing the history of these lost urban rivers by plunging into archival maps and going underground with clandestine urban explorers. We search for the disappeared Petite rivière St-Pierre in Montreal, the Garrison Creek in Toronto, the River Tyburn in London, the Saw Mill River in Yonkers, New York, the Cheonggyechon River in Seoul, and the Bova-Celato River in Brescia, Italy. Could we see these rivers again? To find the answer, we meet visionary urban thinkers, activists and artists from around the world. (Source: Official Film Website)

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This film is available at the Rachel Carson Center Library (RCC, 4th floor, Leopoldstrasse 11a, 80802 Munich) for on-site viewing only. For more information, please contact library@rcc.lmu.de.

About the Environmental Film Profiles collection

Further readings:

- Bai, Xuemei, et al. "Global Change and the Ecology of Cities." *Science* 319, no. 5864 (2008): 756–60.
- Gallini, Stefania, Laura Felacio, Angélica Agredo, and Stephanie Garcés. "The City's Currents: A History of Water in 20th-Century Bogotá." Environment & Society Portal, *Virtual Exhibitions* 2014, no. 3. Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society.
- Price, Jenny. "Remaking American Environmentalism: On the Banks of the LA River." *Environmental History* 13

(2008): 536–55.
- Swyngedouw, E. "Power, Nature, and the City. The Conquest of Water and the Political Ecology of Urbanization in Guayaquil, Ecuador: 1880-1990." *Environment and Planning A* 29, no. 2 (1997): 311–32.

Related links:

- Lost Rivers Montreal (iPhone App)
  https://itunes.apple.com/ca/app/lost-rivers-montreal/id565953568
- "11 Rivers Forced Underground" (Photo Essay, National Geographic)
  http://environment.nationalgeographic.com/environment/photos/underground-rivers/
- Laura Bliss. "The Hidden Health Dangers of Buried Urban Rivers." (Citylab)
  http://www.citylab.com/politics/2015/08/the-hidden-health-dangers-of-buried-urban-rivers/400442/
- Andy Dangerfield. "The Lost Rivers that Lie Beneath London." (BBC News)
  http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-london-29551351
- Jenny Price. "Remaking American Environmentalism: On the Banks of the L.A. River." (Video)
  http://www.foresthistory.org/Events/lecture2007.html

Websites linked in this text:

- http://rivieresperdues.radio-canada.ca/en/film
- http://www.carsoncenter.uni-muenchen.de/index.html
- https://www.environmentandsociety.org/multimedia/collection/environmental-films-project