

Page artistic research diary, Preikestolen Norway, 22nd of July, 2023

It's 04:00 in the morning when we arrive at the top of the giant cliff, towering almost 1000 meters above the Norwegian Lysefjord. The expected sunrise is set at 04:45, leaving us with 45 minutes to define the right camera angle in order to capture the sunrise. But, it's cloudy. Thick clouds embrace the giant rock tightly, and the fog makes it difficult to even distinguish the cliff from the abyss. I suddenly feel overwhelmed by the powerful feeling that this isn't our territory.

I set foot on the now-empty platform. In two hours from now, this platform will be filled with hundreds of people. But the only thing I can think about is the fog. There can't be any fog. This is our last shooting day here and if there's fog, we won't be able to capture the altitude of the rock. We slowly stumble towards the other end of the cliff. We want to position the camera a little bit higher than the platform itself, allowing us to take on the perspective of nature: an important wish and the first rule in the manifesto we wrote. The camera is set 30 centimeters from the abyss, but we both didn't even notice. We're too busy predicting the weather, and I send a little prayer; begging the fog will disappear. But it doesn't. It keeps getting more foggy and the first people who set foot on the platform - expecting to see a magic sunrise - already disappointed turn around, making their way back downstairs.

Two hours later, the platform is filled with people. It has started to rain. And I'm standing there, isolated from what's happening around me, worrying in my head about the fact that you can't see anything. Jeroen, the cinematographer, interrupts my worrying thoughts. He notices that I'm not fully present. He suggests to take a break. And while we sit in the rain on a small stone, trying our best to protect the camera from getting wet, I share my worries with Jeroen. Jeroen demands me to look around. 'All those people, climbing two hours to the top in order to take a selfie on the cliff, now can't see a thing, isn't that what the film is about?' Isn't the message that nature will always have its own will, no matter how much we think that we can affect it? This is what nature gives us, the only thing we have to do now is accept it.