

Alexandra Dahlström On Her New Movie 'All We Have Is Now'



Those Dancing Days disbanded in 2011. They had several hits in the 00's and opened for **Belle & Sebastian**. But in the wake of *Those Dancing Days* Cecilia Efraimsson, Lisa Pyk Wirström and Rebekah Rolfart formed the new band **Vulkano**. Alexandra Dahlström follows their story in the new film *All We Have Is Now*, which premieres October 24th.

All We Have Is Now is an intimate fly-on-the-wall portrait where Alexandra Dahlström follows **Vulkano** in a way that makes the viewer feel like a part of the band. We'll see **Vulkano** partying, going on their first US tour, and their attempt to make it big when suddenly a band member decides to quit. *Nöjesguiden* has been talking with Alexandra Dahlström about why you don't need expensive film cameras, how to create trust and when reality surpasses the dream.

You've had many different projects since your breakthrough in *Show Me Love*. What was it that attracted you to the documentary?

- I didn't care too much about what kind of format or genre it was in the beginning of this film. I just noticed that there was a very special energy around the four of us and I had the desire to tell a story about it. Or yes, now I know! I have a little scientist in me who loves music, and while working on the film that little scientist was fulfilled, "How is a song born? What is the formula used to create it? How do you feel afterwards?"

What was it that really made you feel, "Yes, it's **Vulkano that I want to follow"?**

- My reaction when I saw them for the first time was, "But wait, this is the music I've longed to hear

my entire life! But this is the first time I'm listening to it?" The last nail in the coffin was the velvet cloaks they played in. I had seen Sunn o))) the same winter and was completely floored, Vulkano had the same sound but instead of anarchy they had a lot of joy and magic.

You've followed Vulkano very close up – how do you build such trust?

- It wasn't a conscious thought, "now I will build trust." It just happened. We have fun together and like the same things; to go on adventures and discover the world. But this movie would have not happened if we hadn't had so much respect and curiosity together from the start.

When I see the movie, it has a very intimate, almost lo-fi feel. There are hand cameras, and natural lighting. Is it deliberate? If so, what did you want to portray?

- Operating heavy equipment you miss all the amazing, beautiful and funny things that happen right in front of you all the time. Good photography is not in the budget, but in the creativity and spontaneity that you create space for in the recording. Above all, I had never, ever been able to come this close with an Alexa or a RED.



The film is of course a clear dramaturgy, such as when Rebekah Rolfart quits Vulkano. Did this come up automatically during filming or is it an afterthought?

- The flow and the chronology of the film was born when a genius of editing, Britta Norell, took hundreds of hours of material and got both me and Steve, my producer, grinning as she showed us the first rough cut. Sometimes I find it hard to call *All We Have Is Now* a documentary. As soon as you tell something in a certain way, it becomes fiction. But it really was noticeable during our rock work, the reality surpasses the dream anytime.

What would you say the film's theme is? I can imagine both friendship and the desire to break away from the old and create a new identity? If the film has a clear theme, can you self-identify with it?

- It's about a strong desire for freedom, the dream of taking over the world with your friends. But mostly it's about life-long friendship. I can identify with having dreams so big that they could both crush you and take you around the world. Often they do both simultaneously. I'm a loner because I grew up as a movie star but also a herd animal that's constantly searching for my temporary family on movie sets. Becoming a part of the community with the band was like finally being home somehow. I think that the band will be connected to each other forever. And it may be in other ways, not always as band members.

Will we be seeing more documentary films from you? If so, what would you like to do a documentary on?

- Many people believe that I was sitting there with a camera in hand and thought "oh, how lucky, the dramatic events unfolding in front of my lens!" But it was quite the opposite. What is not shown in the movie is that I cried like my parents had just divorced when Rebekah quit. I am both a die hard fan and a secret kind of family member of the band, so it was just as hard on me as it was on Cissi, Lisa and Rebekah. But then in retrospect, I'm glad I didn't turn the camera away so that these feelings will remain forever.

*All We Have Is Now will premiere on October 24th. It's being celebrated with a night on the beach at **Debaser** October 29th where Vulkano will appear and the film will be shown. World premiere of the film at the **Way Out West** festival.*

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