



Epilepsy... You are not alone

## **Press Release, February 2013**

## A DVD to better understand epilepsy

Fabienne Picard, doctor and researcher for the University Hospitals of Geneva (HUG) and junior lecturer at the University of Geneva, has conceived and produced a DVD entitled "Art & Epilepsy". Its goal is to make the disease better known and eliminate the prejudice surrounding it. With the solid knowledge we have today in 2012, epilepsy should no longer inspire suspicion and fear.

To render things clear and entertaining, Dr. Picard has divided the film into three parts: a conference for the general public; a performance with readings of texts from well-known creative artists who suffered from the disease, interspersed with musical compositions that evoke the intensity of seizures; finally, an investigative report into the history of epilepsy, as well as interviews with specialists.

It reminds us that numerous creative individuals suffered from epilepsy, including Julius Caesar, Molière, Napoleon Bonaparte, Lenin, Agatha Christie, Flaubert, Newton, Dostoevsky, Van Gogh and many others.

Epilepsy has always been with us and, like most poorly understood phenomena, is subject to all kinds of myths. Even today millions of people with epilepsy suffer suspicion and discrimination which, compounded with the illness itself, creates social stigma that becomes a veritable handicap. Many patients hide their epilepsy and limit their social life because they are afraid of having a seizure in public and being judged by others. This DVD has been made to inform the general public about the disease and be done with the prejudice related to it.

## **DVD "ART & EPILEPSY" Content:**

**CONFERENCE** 25' | Dr. Fabienne Picard speaks about epilepsy **PERFORMANCE** 70' | actor Alain Carré, pianist François-René Duchâble **INVESTIGATIVE REPORT** 50' | interviews with researchers, artists, historians Languages:

Original Version: French | English Version: Voice-over |

German, Spanish, Italian subtitles

Conceived & Produced by: Dr. Fabienne Picard

Film: Labre & Charoud

## **CONTACT AND ORDERS**

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**DVD Orders** 

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**Excerpts:** www.epileps.ch