

## **Ghost Road III/Chantier de création**

After having weaved their way across the routes of the USA in Ghost Road I and the Atacama Desert in Chile in Children of Nowhere (Ghost Road II), Fabrice Murgia and his team take us to Russia to discover the city of Ozyorsk, built at the end of the Second World War.

This city was originally a secret city, a military-industrial complex designed to manufacture and refine plutonium for nuclear warheads. It is, nonetheless, an ordinary city with ordinary social organization, with residential buildings, schools, a hospital and supermarkets.

In September 1957, a nuclear catastrophe took place in the nuclear fuel reprocessing plant. This catastrophe, classified as level 6 on the International Nuclear Event Scale, is, along with those of Chernobyl and Fukushima, one of the most serious nuclear accidents ever.

And yet, up until 1993, the Soviet authorities managed to keep this incident secret, letting the inhabitants of Ozyorsk deal with this radioactive contamination, which actually threatened the whole world.

Since then, Ozyorsk has become a "closed city" and most of the surrounding villages have been evacuated but several thousand inhabitants continue to live there and to draw contaminated water from the river to irrigate their fields.

Wishing to meet these people who had spent their childhood in this forbidden city, Fabrice Murgia called on two great actors, David Murgia and Jos De Pauw. Together they invite us to listen to the accounts of these women and men and their past as children compelled to keeping the secret of the very existence of Ozyorsk.