



# THE LAST PIG

Directed by Allison Argo  
Cinematography by Joseph Brunette  
Produced by Allison Argo and Joseph Brunette  
54min | USA | [www.TheLastPig.com](http://www.TheLastPig.com)

Director-Producer: Allison Argo  
ArgoFilms, LTD  
157 Owl Pond Rd  
Brewster, MA 02631  
USA  
+15082401955  
[www.TheLastPig.com](http://www.TheLastPig.com)

Director/ Producer: Allison Argo, ArgoFilms, LTD: [allison@argofilms.com](mailto:allison@argofilms.com)

Official Website: [www.TheLastPig.com](http://www.TheLastPig.com)

Official Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/445374908>

Photos: <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1gWlc92kjL2kgoM0KQLboNtZy73wHQQU9>

**Educational Purchase:**

Good Docs

<https://gooddocs.net/products/the-last-pig>  
[outreach@gooddocs.net](mailto:outreach@gooddocs.net)

Humane Education Program: [edu@TheLastPig.com](mailto:edu@TheLastPig.com)

For inquiries about all other rights: [info@TheLastPig.com](mailto:info@TheLastPig.com)

**Log Line**

This award-winning film chronicles the changing landscape of animal agriculture and one farmer's ethical crisis: after years of raising pigs for meat, he can no longer bear the ultimate act of betrayal.

**Short Synopsis – 106 words**

This award-winning documentary chronicles the life of a farmer in crisis: after a decade of raising pigs, he can no longer bear the ultimate act of betrayal. Set against the stunning backdrop of Upstate New York, THE LAST PIG documents the final year of a small-scale farmer and the pigs under his care. Deeply immersive, the film is a poetic snapshot, a contemplation on compassion, ethics, and the changing landscape of animal agriculture. In intimate detail, it captures the farmer's personal upheaval as he questions his own morality and the value of life. Through the story's simple intimacy, the farmer's moral quandary quietly becomes our own.

**Long Synopsis – 134 words**

On a bucolic farm in Upstate New York, a farmer is in crisis: after years of raising pigs, he can no longer bear the ultimate act of betrayal. Unable to ignore his ethical impasse, and with 250 pigs on the farm, he sets out to change his life.

Stunning cinematography captures the final year of a small-scale farmer and the pigs under his care. Deeply immersive, THE LAST PIG is a poetic snapshot, a contemplation on compassion, ethics, and the changing landscape of animal agriculture. The farmer's inner reflections share his struggle to align life with values, and through the story's simple intimacy, his moral quandary quietly becomes our own.

With bittersweet detail, this award-winning film offers an entirely new view of small-scale livestock farming and raises crucial questions about the ethics of eating.



## The Filmmakers

### Allison Argo: Producer + Director + Editor



Allison Argo's films have won over 100 awards internationally, including six national Emmys, as well as duPont Columbia, Genesis, Jackson Hole, NY, Banff, and dozens of awards from New Zealand to Japan. Argo is known for her emotionally-charged and deeply personal films – in particular her intimate portraits of abused and endangered animals. The nearly two dozen films she's produced, directed and written have all been broadcast by PBS and/or National Geographic and have reached audiences worldwide. The Last Pig continues Argo's mission to provide a voice for those who are not heard– and to deepen understanding and respect for all beings. Learn more: [www.ArgoFilms.com](http://www.ArgoFilms.com)

**Director's statement:** THE LAST PIG was conceived as a meditation on life, death and personal values. The film was intended as an immersive experience where the viewer shares the character's daily life and growing anxiety. It unfolds unhurriedly, often in real time, immersing the viewer in the life of a small scale farmer. The pace of the film allows time and space to experience one's own thoughts. Quietly, the viewer embarks on an intimate journey of their own.

### Joseph Brunette: Cinematographer + Producer



Joseph Brunette is an award-winning cinematographer whose work has appeared on National Geographic, CNN, PBS, NOVA, Nature, Discovery and History. His work has taken him around the world and enabled him to combine his passions for beauty and justice. Brunette has an ability to capture the essence of the most poignant moments and his sensitive work behind the camera enables a level of intimacy and honesty that reveals the vulnerable heart of a story. THE LAST PIG holds special meaning for Brunette, who has long been an advocate for animal welfare and the environment. Learn more: [www.JosephBrunette.com](http://www.JosephBrunette.com)

## Bob Comis Biography



Bob Comis, the main character of THE LAST PIG, chronicled his day-to-day life as a pig farmer for over 10 years. His work has been published online and can be read at:

<https://www.huffpost.com/author/bob-comis>.

"For the first few decades of my life, I was oblivious to the suffering of non-human (and human) animals. Thanks to the courage and bravery of undercover investigators who secretly capture and share footage of the twin horrors of factory farming and industrial slaughter, I was roused from my ignorance. I became a vegan, but quickly failed. In search of an alternative to factory-farmed meat, I became a humane pig farmer—and quickly succeeded.

I raised pigs for slaughter for ten years, until a powerful sense of empathy and compassion propelled me to change the course of my life. I decided to quit pig farming, start a vegetable farm, and become a vegetarian (vegan, in 2015).

Today, when I pull a beet out of the ground, or unearth a brilliant cluster of potatoes, I am able to be fully present, which is very much the opposite of my experience when I farmed pigs, which I did from a distance, divorced from the moment, disconnected from myself."



THE LAST PIG.COM

## Director's Notes, Allison Argo

***Finding the story:*** A few years ago, I read an essay titled “Happy Pigs Make Happy Meat?” – written by a pig farmer. By the time I’d finished reading, I was in tears. When I mustered the courage to contact the farmer, we talked on the phone for an hour. I asked if he’d consider a documentary, and despite his reservations, he agreed to let me visit his farm with my friend and cinematographer, Joe Brunette. Joe and I drove to his farm in Upstate New York, not knowing whether Bob would consider letting us film. After discussing the film for hours, he said yes.

***The filming process:*** We started filming right away, since we’d miss the story if we took time to search for funding. We shot for nine months, through the seasons, for one week each month. In the field, it was just Bob, Joe, me, the pigs, and Monk, Bob’s beloved dog. Our two-person crew gave us an intimacy which I think is reflected in the film.

Although we filmed on-camera interviews with the farmer, in the edit I decided to use only his voice. Seeing him speak on camera seemed to break a spell. I wanted the viewer to slip into Bob’s subconscious and become an intimate part of his journey.

For Bob to allow us to tell his story was a huge leap of faith. I’m happy to say that he’s seen and very much appreciates the film.

***Why Bob wasn’t able to create a sanctuary for the last pigs:*** Though he certainly thought about it, there were multiple reasons why Bob wasn’t able to create a sanctuary for the last of the pigs. The land was not his—it was leased from neighbors—and all of Bob’s money was tied up in the farm.

He also knew his limitations. Bob is gifted at caring for animals, but keeping a sanctuary afloat requires skills he doesn’t possess (such as fundraising and management). He recently shared with me that he misses the pigs terribly and he’s still haunted by their ghosts.

Bob is the first to acknowledge his failings. I believe it’s this willingness to share his human imperfections that makes his story so compelling. I hope his transparency will inspire others to consider their own truth and to live that truth more completely—even if it means turning their life upside down.

***Why I wanted to make this film:*** I’ve been making documentaries on issues about justice, animals, and conservation for the past 30 years. When I read Bob Comis’ essay, I knew his incredible story had to be documented. For much of our society, there’s a huge disconnect between what we eat and the source of that food. Who better to help explore that disconnect, and inspire compassion for ALL beings, than a farmer experiencing his own evolution of thought? Through its intimacy, this story has the power to reach an audience that might not have contemplated these issues.



## FAQs

***Q: How did you finance the film?***

A: The Last Pig has been a labor of love, financed through crowdfunding, a few small grants and work without pay on the part of the filmmakers. Our effort to raise funds for distribution is ongoing. (If you'd like to contribute, [please let us know](#). Any support we receive goes directly toward reaching more viewers!)

***Q: What is the future for the film?***

A: We've completed our festival run (with 42 festivals and 11 awards) and launched an outreach campaign to make the film available to communities, art house cinemas, and organizations. To date, The Last Pig has had nearly 250 screenings in 34 countries! We've recently edited special versions of the film for younger audiences, and age-specific companion guides have been created for classroom use. You can learn more about [THE LAST PIG EDU](#) project here.

We are aiming for a television broadcast in spring of 2021. After that, we plan to make the film available on streaming platforms like Amazon, Apple, Hulu, etc.

***Q: Is The Last Pig going to be available outside the US?***

A: We've already hosted many screenings outside the US and look forward to many more! Since the story of The Last Pig is universal, its message transcends culture, age, language, and religion. The film has been screened in 28 countries to date - including South Africa, Brazil, Estonia, Japan, Guatemala, Australia, Germany, France, UK, New Zealand and South Korea! Please [contact us](#) to host a screening in your country!

***Q: What languages will The Last Pig be translated into?***

A: The film has been translated into 16 languages so far, thanks to any amazing array of volunteers. If your language isn't yet available, we can provide you with the script for translation. [Contact us](#) for more info!

***Q: Is the film appropriate for children?***

A: This is likely dependent on the child's level of maturity. Children of various ages have watched and enjoyed the film - however we have created alternate versions of the film for younger, more sensitive audiences. For more information, [visit our EDU page](#).

***Q: How can I see the film?***

A: Check our website's list of upcoming screenings to see whether a screening is scheduled in your area. If there isn't one scheduled, you can organize one yourself! These screenings are very powerful, since they help bring communities together and spark important dialogue about ethics and compassion. \*Due to COVID-19, most screenings have been postponed. Screenings will be posted as soon as they resume!

***Q: I have the place to screen and a group planning to attend. Now what?***

A: Wonderful! Please [fill out this form](#). You are welcome to pay our licensing fee directly, or you might consider applying for a [VegFund grant](#)!

***Q: How can I follow The Last Pig's progress?***

A: [We'd love for you to sign up for our newsletter](#), connect to our social media platforms ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#)) or reach out to us [here](#).

***Q: How can I help promote The Last Pig and its message?***

A: There are lots of ways to do this! You can...

- Donate to the film to help with distribution costs.
- Adopt and promote a sustainable, plant-based lifestyle.
- Write environmental organizations and request that they address the true impacts of animal agriculture and provide real solutions to the problems.
- Write articles, blogs, posts, tweets, podcasts, or letters to the editor about the serious impact of animal farming.
- Write your state and federal representatives and demand that they address the impacts of animal farming.
- Search for and request The Last Pig on platforms such as NETFLIX, iTunes, and Hulu. (This increases the likelihood of us streaming on these sites).
- Organize or help promote a local screening for your community.
- Share DVDs with your [friends and neighbors](#)! Host a [screening](#)!
- Help spread the word! Share our posts on social media: Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.
- Feel free to [share images from our website](#).

### ***Additional Common Questions***

***Q: Is Bob vegan?***

A: Yes, Bob became vegan during the making of the film (as did the director).

***Q: How are the surviving pigs?***

A: Five of the pigs are alive and well at sanctuaries. Sadly, three of the pigs are no longer alive, but their final chapters were peaceful.

***Q: What sanctuaries took in the pigs?***

A: [Catskill Animal Sanctuary](#), [Farm Sanctuary](#) (both in NY state) and [Rooterville Sanctuary](#) in Florida

***Q: What is Bob doing now?***

A: Bob is taking a break from vegetable farming and advocating for pigs when he can.

***Q: How many pigs are raised for food in the US each year?***

A: According to the USDA, 129,989,000 pigs were slaughtered in the U.S. in 2019, a 4% increase over 2018.

***Q: Is this what most farms are like?***

A: Most animals raised for food in the U.S. live in confined crates, pens, or cages in large warehouses on industrial farms. In almost all cases, the animals are never allowed outside. Because these confined conditions are so unhealthy for the animals, they are fed antibiotics to keep them alive until they are slaughtered.

## What People Are Saying

**"Startling, Honest, and Deeply Beautiful"**

— MOBY, Animal Activist & Musician

**"I want every person in the world to see this film!"**

— RICHARD LINKLATER, Film Director

**"An extraordinarily insightful and moving film. Profoundly important as well!"**

— JAMES CROMWELL, Actor

**"Poignant, thought provoking and superbly well-crafted film."**

—GIOVANNI SPINELLI, Composer of The Last Pig

**"Heartwarming, eye opening film. This movie is a must for all."**

—MARIAH KELLY

**"Profound wisdom and awakenings revealed in this remarkable documentary."**

— MICHAEL MAH

**"Fantastic, brilliant documentary. GO SEE IT!"**

—REBECCA ALVIN

**"It's a great contribution to the animals and humanity."**

—VALERIE LANG WALDIN

**"A wonderful movie. Everybody should see it!!"**

—MONICA PARISI

**"Breathtaking, raw, emotional and honest + beautifully filmed."**

—LIESBETH RIEKWEL

**"So needed."**

—JERRY TOWNSEND

**"I never thought about what was on my plate before."**

— DEBRA SANDS

**"Through the eyes of Bob, the pigs, and masterful storytelling, this stunningly poignant film reminds us that we're all the same. A must see."**

—JULES SCHNEDEKER

**"Powerfully moving and beautifully filmed. A must-see. This movie is both mesmerizing in its visual artistry and thought-provoking in the way the story is told."**

—RYAN PHILLIPS



THE LAST PIG.COM



## Festivals

Full Frame Film Festival	DC Environmental Film Festival
Maine Int'l Film Festival	Provincetown Int'l Film Festival
Hot Springs Film Festival	Mill Valley Film Festival
Hamptons Int'l Film Festival	Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival
Woodstock Film Festival	Wild & Scenic Film Festival
Sedona Int'l Film Festival	NHdocs Film Festival
New York Wild Film Festival	HSUS Genesis Awards 2018
Crossroads Film Festival	EthnograFilm Festival
Japan Wildlife Film Festival	Wildlife Film Festival Rotterdam
Korea Animal Rights Festival	Cinemabiente Environmental Film Festival
Matsalu International Film Festival	Animal Film Festival Korea
Gran Paradiso Film Festival	Jelly Festival
Ekotop Film Festival	Emerge Film Festival
Les Films Verts	Mostra Animali Film Festival
Planet in Focus Film Festival	Innsbruk Nature Film Festival
Earth Talks Int'l Film Fest	Norman Film Festival
Newburyport Film Festival	DocUtah
Ecuador Film Festival	Seoul Eco Film Festival
Auroville Film Festival	Fort Lauderdale Int'l Film Festival
Lower East Side Film Festival	International Wildlife Film Festival

