

## THE MEASURES

photographed, directed and edited by Jacqueline Goss and Jenny Perlin

### SYNOPSIS:

Jacqueline Goss and Jenny Perlin retrace the journey of two 18th-century astronomers tasked with determining the true length of the meter. From the Mediterranean Sea to the English Channel, *The Measures* explores the metric system's origins during the violence and upheavals of the French Revolution. Along the way, Goss and Perlin consider the intertwining of political and personal turmoil, the failures of standardization, and the subtleties of collaboration.

### BIOS:

**Jenny Perlin's** practice in 16mm film, video, and drawing works with and against the documentary tradition, incorporating innovative stylistic techniques to emphasize issues of truth, misunderstanding, and personal history. She lives and works in Brooklyn.

**Jacqueline Goss** makes movies and web-based works that explore how political, cultural, and scientific systems change the ways we think about ourselves. For the last few years she has used 2D digital animation techniques to work within the genre of the animated documentary. Her last film was "The Observers" -- a portrait of the summit of Mount Washington, NH: home to the highest human-recorded wind speed and one of the oldest weather observatories in the western hemisphere. She lives in the Hudson Valley and teaches at Bard College.

*Jenny and I shot "The Measures" during the first week of June in 2013, following Mechain and Delambre's footsteps. At times, we seemed to become them, taking on aspects of their personalities. As we recorded their journey, we noted how history has carved its way into the surfaces of France. But we also marveled at the natural and varied beauty of the country.*