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**YOUNG, SELF-TAUGHT DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKER
ENCOURAGES PUBLIC TO QUESTION THE POSSIBILITY OF LIFE
AFTER DEATH**

On 15th November 2019, Laura Rowton, 24, released “In Search of the Dead”, a documentary film on life after death. Having self-funded the project with her husband, Erik, 29, Rowton had no experience in filmmaking when she set herself the ambitious task of searching for proof of survival after death over two years ago.

The filming took the young couple across Europe to interview renowned academics and experts, and shadow experienced ghost hunters and paranormal investigators. The pair even spent the night in Hoia-Baciu, a forest in Romania claimed to be the most haunted in the world.

Rowton describes herself as an open-minded sceptic, who, with her husband, has been running the online paranormal research project “The Paranormal Scholar” since 2015.

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[ETHEREAL PRODUCTIONS: “IN SEARCH OF THE DEAD” PRESS RELEASE]

No longer wishing to be an “armchair sceptic”, she set herself the challenge of going out into the field and investigating firsthand. In producing the documentary, her intention was to observe and document the different opinions surrounding the ever-increasing belief in the existence of spirits of the dead. However, before too long she realised that, when handling such emotive subject matter, it is not always possible to remain an unaffected observer. By the end of the film, Rowton described the journey as having been “one of the most profound experiences of my life.”

One of the most striking conclusions the documentary draws, through its interactions with academics including the University of Greenwich’s Dr. David Luke, is that science does not yet have all the answers in regards to life after death. As Luke states in the film, scientists “assume that [the] brain produces consciousness but we don’t know that. We don’t actually know that.”

“In Search of the Dead” is the first full feature production for Ethereal Productions, the company established by Laura and Erik in 2017. Since its release, reviewers online have praised the film as “a brilliant first production”, “engaging, heartfelt, and moving” and a “very interesting and engaging documentary worth multiple viewings”.

“In Search of the Dead” is available to rent or purchase on Vimeo.

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