

# UC San Diego

## Capstone Papers

### **Title**

The Blue Bahr Film Festival: Raising Ocean Awareness Through Film

### **Permalink**

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### **Author**

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### **Publication Date**

2013-04-01

JUSTINE SCHMIDT  
MBC – SIO 296

## CAPSTONE PROPOSAL

What: Blue Bahr Ocean Film Festival  
Where: Beirut, Lebanon May 2013

Enclosed are two documents which describe the Blue Bahr Film Festival in more detail. One is a film festival brief, including the purpose of the festival, its format and regional and local partners. The second document highlights the films to be showcased during the festival, with a brief description of each.

In summary, the Blue Bahr Ocean Film Festival is intended as a celebration of our oceans, while at the same time serving as a platform to increase awareness and inform the public at large about the dire threats facing our seas. The Mediterranean and the Lebanese coast suffer from disastrous conditions including extreme pollution (runoff), marine debris and overfishing.

The films that will be showcased will touch upon these relevant topics, and seminars will be offered each day based on a specific theme (plastic pollution, shark conservation, marine safety, seafood sustainability). The goal of the festival is to create social change and to encourage the public to become better stewards of the sea. To this end, a survey will be provided at the end of each screening in order to assess the impact of each particular film and to what extent it might affect personal change (I would like to implement the survey twice, once right after the screening and once six months later with follow up questions directed at a random sample of the festival audience). Also, through the use of surveys I would like to ascertain what format of films have greater impact in affecting social change on the public (short films, PSAs or traditional long format docs, and/or hosted, comical).

The overall theme of this year's festival will be plastic pollution. With major local and international partners such as the Plastic Pollution Coalition, the festival will hold panels and will be screening a strong collection of plastic-themed films (Bag It!, Plastic Oceans) along with a large collection of plastic-related shorts and PSAs. Panels will be held and a day of "Say No To Plastics" will be held during the festival. Pamphlets, brochures, and reusable bags will be featured throughout the festival venues. I am hoping that UCSD Prof. (and my capstone advisor) Amro Hamdoun will be able to attend the festival and speak on the negative impact of plastics on our oceans and human health.

In addition, we will be working with local NGOs to introduce relevant petitions (reducing plastic pollution, heightening shark protection, establishment of MPAs). There are already many partners on board ranging from universities, NGOs, foreign embassies and private corporations, and all are excited by and in support of this new initiative.

B L U E T R I B E M E D I A A N D  
B L U E O C E A N F I L M F E S T I V A L

PRESENT



**THE BLUE BAHR FILM FESTIVAL 2013**  
**LEBANON'S PREMIER OCEAN EVENT**

*... Celebrating oceans, celebrating life*

Contact: Justine Schmidt • telephone: + 1 202 413 4490 • Leb: 961 76 745 940 • [justine@bluetribe.ly](mailto:justine@bluetribe.ly)

## Executive Summary

Our oceans provide life for our entire planet. Yet we are at a crucial moment in history where more than 90% of all the world's big fish are gone due to overfishing, many of our coral reefs have disappeared, and our oceans are getting warmer and more acidic. Our seas and oceans are in serious trouble. And Lebanon's Mediterranean is no exception.

Lebanon's beaches and coastal waters are in critical condition. A mountain of trash sits on the beach of Saida, which regularly collapses into the Mediterranean Sea. Most of Lebanon's raw sewage is pumped directly into the Mediterranean, as is some chemical waste from small, unregulated industries along the coast. Furthermore, tons of untreated hospital waste washes up along Lebanon's Southern coastlines each week, including used syringes. Threats from marine debris, plastic pollution and overfishing are acute. Dynamite blasting is still practiced and the results are irreparable.

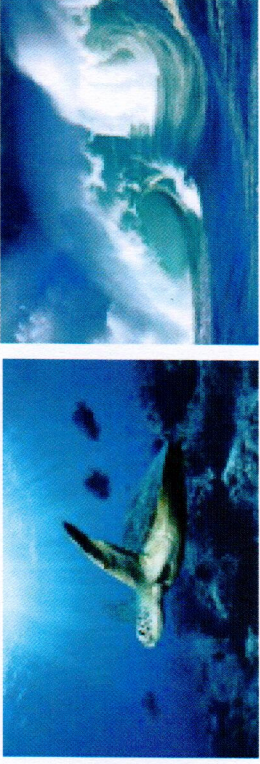
The health of the Lebanese is at stake and awareness of the importance of our sea is vital. By showcasing the world's top ocean films and inviting ocean experts, top ocean filmmakers, celebrity guests and musicians, the **Blue Bahr Film Festival** will become a much anticipated regional event. Not only will **Blue Bahr Film Festival** serve to celebrate our oceans, it will provide a venue to educate the public on how to conserve it for our future generations.

Global partners such as the Blue Ocean Film Festival and the Ocean Channel are poised to help in this new exciting venture.

The mission of the **Blue Bahr Film Festival** will be to provide a visually stunning showcase of the world's best ocean films and videos, designed to entertain, educate, and inspire the public and instill an appreciation for the ocean. The festival will place great emphasis on community outreach and public education about our oceans, the world's most threatened resource.

The goal of the festival is also to encourage native and regional wildlife filmmakers and award those who have demonstrated talent in the craft. Special focus will be placed on regional filmmakers and producers, and a section of the festival will be dedicated to regional productions. Awards and finishing funds will also be granted to the best regional filmmakers.

For more information, please go to the web site – [www.blueoceanfilmfestival.org](http://www.blueoceanfilmfestival.org)



## **BLUE BAHR FILM FESTIVAL FORMAT:**

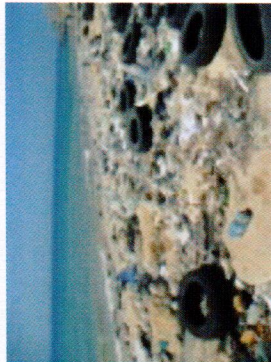
The main festival will take place over a six day period (in September 2013) showcasing films Monday through Saturday to the public in the evenings, and to local school children during the day. The best films will be repeated throughout the following Sunday for the public at large.

Films will be translated into Arabic and screened in theaters throughout the week. Workshops and seminars on subjects ranging from underwater filmmaking to marine conservation will be offered for delegates as well as the general public in various locations including local universities, embassies and marine institutes.

## **REGIONAL TALENT:**

The goal of the festival is also to encourage native and regional wildlife filmmakers and award those who have demonstrated talent in the craft. Special focus will be placed on regional filmmakers and producers, and a section of the festival will be dedicated to regional productions. Awards and finishing funds will also be granted to the best regional filmmakers.

## BOFF 2013 FESTIVAL THEME: SAY NO TO PLASTICS



Floating continents of plastic currently exist in every major ocean. The amount of plastic pollution in our seas is expanding at a catastrophic rate, as in every community around the world, in our homes and in us. Plastic creates toxic pollution at every stage of its existence: manufacture, use, and disposal, and is a material that the Earth cannot digest. Every bit of plastic that has ever been created still exists, including the small amount that has been incinerated and has become toxic particulate matter. In the environment, plastic breaks down into small particles that attract toxic chemicals. These particles are ingested by wildlife on land and in the ocean, contaminating the food chain and endangering our health. Nowadays dangerous levels of harmful chemicals leached by plastics are present in the bloodstream and tissues of almost every one of us, including newborns.

**REFUSE • REUSE • RECYCLE**

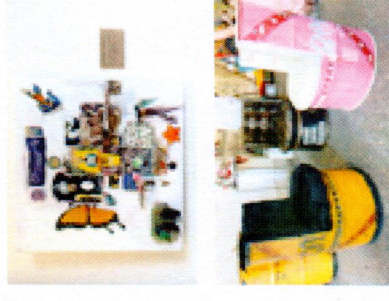
## **SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS:**

Special workshops will be held with the following panel of experts to discuss the current trends in plastic pollution and the drastic effects on our environment and our health.

**AMRO HAMDOUN, PHD**, Biology and Toxicology, SCRIPPS INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY (UCSD)

**DANIELLA RUSSO**, Founder and Exec Director, PLASTIC POLLUTION COALITION

**ROZ SAVAGE**, PROFESSIONAL ROWER AND ADVENTURIST (Has rowed solo across all major oceans)

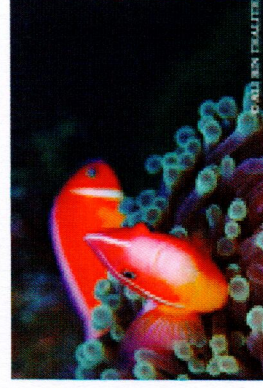


## **ART WORKSHOPS:**

Local artists and the creators of the “TRASHY TREASURES” Art exhibit will give workshops on site to increase awareness of marine debris and plastic pollution and teach children and the general public how to use plastic and recycled materials in a fun and creative way.

## **OCEAN PHOTO CONTEST AND EXHIBIT:**

Leading regional underwater photographers such as Sheikh Ali Ben Talith, Dany Faddoul and others will display their photos and help judge a local photography competition to coincide with the festival.

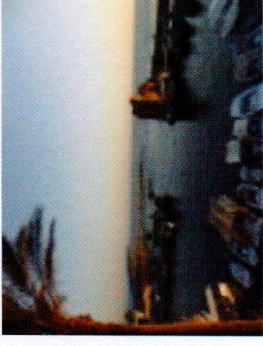


## **REGIONAL PARTNERS:**

American University of Technology  
American University of Beirut  
Bahr Loubnan  
Purple Reef  
IndyAct  
WWF, Lebanon  
Lebanon Diving Association  
Baraka  
Quantum Communications  
French Cultural Institute  
Metropolis Theatres  
MC Distribution

## **INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS:**

Blue Ocean Film Festival  
Scripps Institute of Oceanography, UCSD  
Plastic Pollution Coalition  
European Environment Agency  
One World One Ocean Campaign  
The Ocean Channel  
Oceana  
Save Our Seas  
IUCN  
UNEP  
FIRMM (Foundation for Information and Research  
on Marine Mammals)  
NOAA  
The Ocean Foundation  
Patagonia  
Oceans 8  
Blue Tribe Media  
Sony  
Panasonic



## **INTERNATIONAL GUEST CELEBRITIES:**

Jean Michel Cousteau  
Jack Johnson  
Jacques Perrin  
Roz Savage



## **SAMPLE AWARD WINNING FILMS:**

### **FEATURE FILMS:**

OCEANS (by JACQUES PERRIN)  
END OF THE LINE  
BAG IT!  
PLASTIC PLANET  
OCEANS 3D  
THE LAST REEF  
RIDING GIANTS  
SHARKWATER

### **SHORTS and PSAS:**

THE MAJESTIC BAG / PLASTIC STATE OF MIND / UNEP MARINE DEBRIS  
RETHINK THE SHARK (SOS)  
ONCE UPON A TIDE

### **REGIONAL FILMS:**

THE LAST GIANTS (OF THE MEDITERRANEAN)  
SAIDA TRASH MOUNTAIN (MOHAMED EL SARJII)  
LEBANON OIL SPILL (HADY ZACCAK)  
WATER STORIES (AUT)  
SHARKS OF THE MEDITERRANEAN  
SHARKS OF ARABIA (JONATHAN ALI KHAN)  
OASIS OF LIFE  
WILD ARABIA (BBC)

## SAMPLE AWARD WINNING FILMS

THE END OF THE LINE  
[www.endoftheline.com](http://www.endoftheline.com)

The world's first major documentary about the devastating effect of overfishing. Imagine an ocean without fish. Imagine the global consequences. This is the future if we do not stop, think and act.

The End of the Line, the first major feature documentary film revealing the impact of overfishing on our oceans. It examines the imminent extinction of bluefin tuna, brought on by increasing western demand for sushi; the impact on marine life resulting in huge overpopulation of jellyfish; and the profound implications of a future world with no fish that would bring certain mass starvation.

Filed over two years, The End of the Line follows the investigative reporter Charles Clover as he confronts politicians and celebrity restaurateurs, who exhibit little regard for the damage they are doing to the oceans. Filmed across the world – from the Straits of Gibraltar to the coasts of Senegal and Alaska to the Tokyo fish market – featuring top scientists, indigenous fishermen and fisheries enforcement officials, The End of the Line is a wake-up call to the world.



BAG IT!

**Bag It** has been garnering awards at film festivals across the nation. What started as a documentary about plastic bags evolved into a wholesale investigation into plastics and their effect on our waterways, oceans, and even our bodies. Join the Bag It movement and decide for yourself how plastic your life will be.

Contact: Justine Schmidt • telephone: + 1 202 413 4490 • Leb: 961 76 745 940 • [justine@bluetribe.tv](mailto:justine@bluetribe.tv)

## SHARKWATER

[www.sharkwater.com](http://www.sharkwater.com)

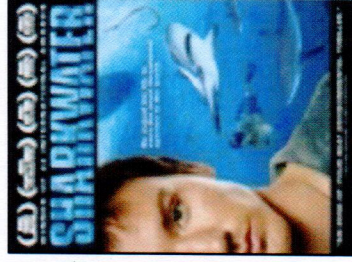
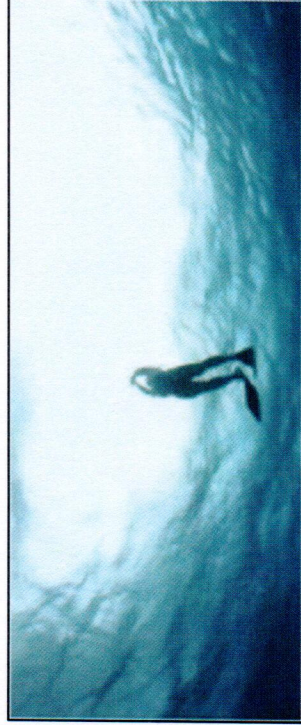
"An eye-opening film...visually stunning... this movie will change the way you see our oceans."

- Bonnie Laufer, Tribute Magazine

For filmmaker Rob Stewart, exploring sharks began as an underwater adventure. What it turned into was a beautiful and dangerous life journey into the balance of life on earth.

Driven by passion fed from a lifelong fascination with sharks, Stewart debunks historical stereotypes and media depictions of sharks as bloodthirsty, man-eating monsters and reveals the reality of sharks as pillars in the evolution of the seas.

Filmed in visually stunning, high definition video, Sharkwater takes you into the most shark rich waters of the world, exposing the exploitation and corruption surrounding the world's shark populations in the marine reserves of Cocos Island, Costa Rica and the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador.



In an effort to protect sharks, Stewart teams up with renegade conservationist Paul Watson of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society. Their unbelievable adventure together starts with a battle between the Sea Shepherd and shark poachers in Guatemala, resulting in pirate boat encounters, gunboat chases, mafia espionage, corrupt court systems and attempted murder charges, forcing them to flee for their lives.

Through it all, Stewart discovers these magnificent creatures have gone from predator to prey, and how despite surviving the earth's history of mass extinctions, they could easily be wiped out within a few years due to human greed.

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## ONCE UPON A TIDE

[http://chge.med.harvard.edu/programs/healthyoceans/once\\_upon\\_a\\_tide/home.html](http://chge.med.harvard.edu/programs/healthyoceans/once_upon_a_tide/home.html)

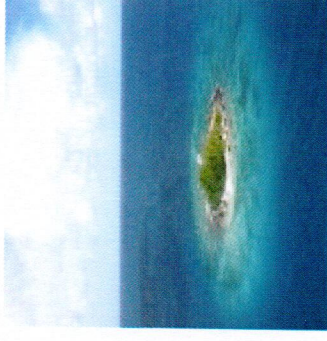
Working with award-winning filmmakers (Sea Studios Foundation) and animation studio (LAIKA/house) the Center for Health and the Global Environment at Harvard Medical School produced a 10-minute film that reconnects its audience to the importance of the marine environment for all life on Earth, including human life.

Unlike conventional natural history documentaries, the film title *Once Upon a Tide*, is a fictional narrative that blends the moral and visual elements of a fairy tale to inspire us to recognize the importance of ocean conservation. This modern day fable is an innovative educational approach that will be shown in aquariums, museums, theaters and schools nationally and internationally. Film distribution includes educational 'take-away' guides for viewers.

*Once Upon a Tide* is receiving accolades from around the world. It has won Best in Show at the Santa Barbara Ocean Film Festival and a Special Jury Selection at the Wildscreen International Wildlife and Environmental Film Festival, the 'Green Oscars' of environmental filmmaking.

## THE ISLAND PRESIDENT <http://theislandpresident.com/>

Jon Shenk's *The Island President* is the story of President Mohamed Nasheed of the Maldives, a man confronting a problem greater than any other world leader has ever faced—the literal survival of his country and everyone in it. After bringing democracy to the Maldives after thirty years of despotic rule, Nasheed is now faced with an even greater challenge: as one of the most low-lying countries in the world, a rise of three feet in sea level would submerge the 1200 islands of the Maldives enough to make them uninhabitable.



## THE LAST REEF

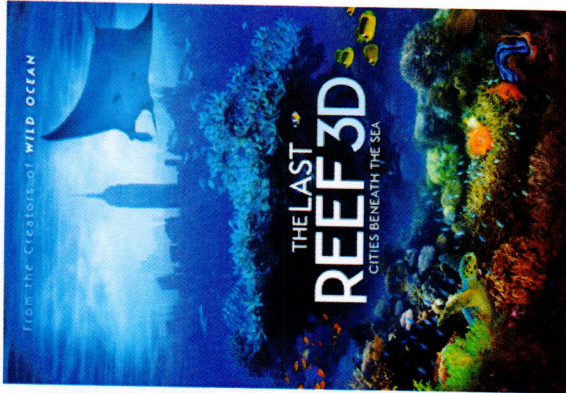
<http://www.thelastreef.co.uk/>

FLY ACROSS iridescent tropical reefs, brush through a cloud of a million jellyfish, visit an alien world where the closer you look, the more you see, where the tiniest creatures support the greatest predators...

We think of reefs as exotic, distant places with little or no connection to our everyday world. Yet every reef is a living city beneath the sea with a parallel existence to ours, distant yet undeniably connected.

Reefs are hotspots of biodiversity as vital to life on earth as the rain-forests. They have been shaping our shorelines, literally forming islands and mountains, for millions of years.

The fossil record shows that given time they have recovered from all of earth's major extinction events. Even reefs pulverized by atomic blasts at Bikini Atoll have regenerated. Yet within our lifetime reefs have come to face their greatest threat...



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BLUE BAHR OCEAN FILM FESTIVAL – SAMPLE WEEK SCHEDULE and FILM LINEUP v 2

EVENTS	SHARKDAY MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY BEST OF	SURFING SUNDAY
DAYTIME SCREENING		School kids screening / Shorts	School kids screening / Shorts	School kids screening / Shorts	School kids screening / Shorts	Best of Regional Films	Best Of
6 PM SCREENING	Sharks of the Mediterranean	The Island President	Passages	Local films Wild Arabia	End of the Line	Best of Student Shorts	Raw
8 PM SCREENING	Sharkwater	The Last Reef	Oceans	Saida Mtn of Trash and Plastic Oceans	Planet Ocean	The Silent World	Here and Now
10 PM SCREENING	Sharks of Arabia	Chasing Ice	Sushi: The Global Catch	The End of the Line	Bag it!	100 Years of Jacques Cousteau	Intentio
LATE SCREENING	Surfing and Sharks	Here and Now	Tales from an Eco Terrorist	Intentio	The Island President	Best Of	Chasing Mavericks
CONSERVATION PANEL	Shark Protection in Lebanon (Purple Reef)	Spearfishing Dos and Don'ts	Water Safety	Our Oceans Our Health (Bahr Loubnan Operation Big Blue)	Conversation with Yann Arthus Bertrand	Conversation with the Cousteaus	
SHORTS (General and Students)							
FESTIVAL EVENT	Photo Exhibit	Photo Exhibit	Photo Exhibit	Photo Exhibit	Photo Exhibit	Photo Exhibit	Oceans Open Air Screening Ramlet al Bayda
Sponsored By	Purple Reef and SOS Foundation	US Embassy	Institut Francais	British Council	Institut Francais	Institut Francais	US Embassy

FILM GENRES:

Conservation

Adrenaline / Surf

General / Animal behavior

Kids

## SHORT FILM LINE-UP

### BLUE AUCTION

<http://www.conservation.org/fmg/pages/videoplayer.aspx?videoid=22>

Featuring Sylvia Earle and the Cousteau grandchildren speaking about the importance of the oceans. Produced by Conservation International

TRT: 5:09 minutes

### THE MAJESTIC BAG – A Mockumentary

<http://youtu.be/GLgh9h2ePYw>

Narrated by Academy Award-winner Jeremy Irons, this "mockumentary" video, hammers home the stark reality of California's plastic bag pollution situation.

TRT: 4 minutes

### PLASTIC STATE OF MIND

<http://youtu.be/koETnRONGLY>

Made by passionate volunteers on a super tiny budget, on the behalf of Green Sangha! Thanks folks! [www.GreenSangha.org/plastics-campaign/](http://www.GreenSangha.org/plastics-campaign/)

and [www.NewMessageMedia.com/contact/](http://www.NewMessageMedia.com/contact/)

TRT: 2:44 minutes

### PLASTIC TRASH ISLAND DISASTER

[http://youtu.be/Ta8HaHP\\_9rE](http://youtu.be/Ta8HaHP_9rE)

We need to do something about this plastic problem. Plastic is not natural, it is man made and plastic floats and chokes the environment. It disrupts the food chain. If many people across the globe will pull together a difference can be made. Start at home ... Pick up the plastic on the beaches and the streets ... Pick up the plastic out of the storm drains and sewer grates ... Refuse plastic bags ... Every little bit helps.....ANOTHER WAY TO SAVE THE EARTH...Music (Buffalo Springfield's) For What Its Worth performed by Toby Gray and Alan Sitar Brown.~~~~~ Toby Gray- vocals, bass,Hammond B 3 , guitar and percussion ~~~~ Alan Sitar Brown - sitar and vocals

### RISE ABOVE PLASTICS (Plastic Whale)

[http://youtu.be/R6IP3\\_aRFtA](http://youtu.be/R6IP3_aRFtA)

### SUSHI TO THE SLAUGHTER

<http://youtu.be/m3J8-OzvutY>

### **END OF THE LINE**

<http://youtu.be/bedirwk950c>

The End of the Line is a powerful film about one of the world's most disturbing problems - over-fishing. Advances in fishing technology mean whole species of wild fish are under threat and the most important stocks we eat are predicted to be in a state of collapse by 2050. The film points the finger at those most to blame, including celebrity chefs, and shows what we can do about it. This is not just a film, it is also a campaign - for sustainable consumption of fish, for marine protected areas to allow the sea to recover, and for a new ethic of responsible fishing.

TRT : 2:07 minutes

### **RETHINK THE SHARK PSA**

<http://youtu.be/lZ2DyVqZYi4>

RETHINK THE SHARK is the PANDA AWARD winning campaign which belongs to shark and marine conservationist and campaigner, Lesley Rochat, and the organisation she founded, AfriOceans Conservation Alliance.

TRT: 1:08 minutes

### **SAIDA TRASH MOUNTAIN**

By Mohamed el Sarji

TRT 16 mins

### **BAHR LOUBNAN PLASTICS TVC**

### **EARTH - ONE VIDEO YOU NEED TO SEE**

[http://youtu.be/thuViaXRd\\_w](http://youtu.be/thuViaXRd_w)

Beautiful sequence with gorgeous beauty shots and powerful music

TRT: 3:03 minutes

### **OCEAN OF TRUTH**

<http://youtu.be/ngrZ7r0XA7M>

Beautiful marine sequence with powerful music describing importance of the sea

TRT 3 minutes

### **OVERFISHING - THE CONSEQUENCES**

<http://youtu.be/VxaxcShp3LY>

Harsh graphics and statistics about the conditions of our oceans and the current drastic effects of overfishing



## LONG FILMS LINE-UP

### THE END OF THE LINE

[www.endoftheline.com](http://www.endoftheline.com)

Director: Rupert Murray

TRT: 85 mins

The world's first major documentary about the devastating effect of overfishing. Imagine an ocean without fish. Imagine the global consequences. This is the future if we do not stop, think and act.

The End of the Line, the first major feature documentary film revealing the impact of overfishing on our oceans. It examines the imminent extinction of bluefin tuna, brought on by increasing western demand for sushi; the impact on marine life resulting in huge overpopulation of jellyfish; and the profound implications of a future world with no fish that would bring certain mass starvation. Filmed over two years, The End of the Line follows the investigative reporter Charles Clover as he confronts politicians and celebrity restaurateurs, who exhibit little regard for the damage they are doing to the oceans. Filmed across the world – from the Straits of Gibraltar to the coasts of Senegal and Alaska to the Tokyo fish market – featuring top scientists, indigenous fishermen and fisheries enforcement officials, The End of the Line is a wake-up call to the world.



### BAG IT!

<http://www.bagitmovie.com/>

Producer: Suzan Beraza

TRT: 74 or 45 mins

*Bag It* has been garnering awards at film festivals across the nation. What started as a documentary about plastic bags evolved into a wholesale investigation into plastics and their effect on our waterways, oceans, and even our bodies. Join the Bag It movement and decide for yourself how plastic your life will be.

## PLASTIC OCEANS

<http://www.plasticoceans.net/the-documentary/>

Producers: Jo Ruxton / Plastic Oceans NGO

TRT: TBD

Plastic Oceans has assembled a team of the world's top scientists and leading filmmakers to produce a powerful, high-end documentary in high definition. This will play a key role in sending out the message. Accompanied by scientists and engineers, the team will travel to some of the most remote parts of the planet, documenting the environmental issues associated with plastic and its impact on mankind as well as some of the most spectacular animals in the world.

## THE COVE

<http://www.thecovemovie.com/>

Producer: Louie Psihoyos

TRT: 92 mins

Academy Award® Winner for Best Documentary of 2009, THE COVE follows an elite team of activists, filmmakers and freedivers as they embark on a covert mission to penetrate a remote and hidden cove in Taiji, Japan, shining a light on a dark and deadly secret. Utilizing state-of-the-art techniques, including hidden microphones and cameras in fake rocks, the team uncovers how this small seaside village serves as a horrifying microcosm of massive ecological crimes happening worldwide. The result is a provocative mix of investigative journalism, eco-adventure and arresting imagery, adding up to an unforgettable story that has inspired audiences worldwide to action.

## CHASING ICE

[www.chasingice.com](http://www.chasingice.com)

Producer: Louie Psihoyos

TRT: 80 mins

'National Geographic' photographer James Balog was once a skeptic about climate change. But through his Extreme Ice Survey, he discovers undeniable evidence of our changing planet. In 'Chasing Ice,' we follow Balog across the Arctic as he deploys revolutionary time-lapse cameras designed for one purpose: to capture a multi-year record of the world's changing glaciers. Balog's hauntingly beautiful videos compress years into seconds and capture ancient mountains of ice in motion as they disappear at a breathtaking rate. Traveling with a young team of adventurers by helicopter, canoe and dog sled across three continents, Balog risks his career and his well-being in pursuit of the biggest story in human history. As the debate polarizes America and the intensity of natural disasters ramp up around the world, 'Chasing Ice' depicts a heroic photojournalist on a mission to gather evidence and deliver hope to our carbon-powered planet.

## PLANET OCEAN

<http://www.yannarthusbertrand.org/en/films-tv/planet-ocean>

Producer/ Director: Yann Arthus-Bertrand and Michael Pitiot

TRT: 90 minutes

Can we imagine a film that would change the way people look at the ocean? Can we explain simply, to everyone, the greatest natural mystery of our planet? And lastly, can we help our children believe in a better and more sustainable world tomorrow? This is the triple challenge of a new cinema adventure signed by Yann Arthus-Bertrand and editor-in-chief Michael Pitiot, who brings with him the scientific missions of TARA, a unique pool of researchers, oceanographers and biologists from several countries. Thanks to its astonishing photography, the film takes us on a magnificent and unprecedented journey into the heart of the least known regions of our planet. The film narrates the most marvelous and also the most terrifying human experiences of our time. Filmed in extreme geographical conditions all over the globe, it describes the modern Odyssey of people who go out to discover their blue planet. The film is also a plea for humanity to respect the world in which we live. It serves a noble and universal cause that will be defended at the next Earth Summit, in Rio, in 2012.

## OCEANS

<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0765128/>

Director: Jacques Perrin

TRT: 104 mins

An ecological drama/documentary, filmed throughout the globe. Part thriller, part meditation on the vanishing wonders of the sub-aquatic world.

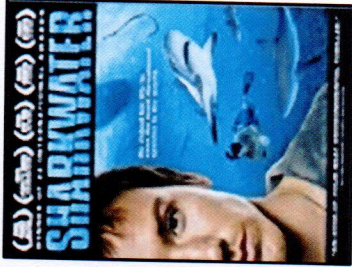
## SHARKWATER

[www.sharkwater.com](http://www.sharkwater.com)

Producer: Rob Stewart

TRT: 89 mins

For filmmaker Rob Stewart, exploring sharks began as an underwater adventure. What it turned into was a beautiful and dangerous life journey into the balance of life on earth. Driven by passion fed from a lifelong fascination with sharks, Stewart debunks historical stereotypes and media depictions of sharks as bloodthirsty, man-eating monsters and reveals the reality of sharks as pillars in the evolution of the seas. Filmed in visually stunning, high definition video, Sharkwater takes you into the most shark rich waters of the world, exposing the exploitation and corruption surrounding the world's shark populations in the marine reserves of Cocos Island, Costa Rica and the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador.



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#### THE ISLAND PRESIDENT

[www.theislandpresident.com](http://www.theislandpresident.com)

Producer: Jon Shenk / Actual Films

TRT: 101 mins

*The Island President* is the story of President Mohamed Nasheed of the Maldives, a man confronting a problem greater than any other world leader has ever faced—the literal survival of his country and everyone in it. After bringing democracy to the Maldives after thirty years of despotic rule, Nasheed is now faced with an even greater challenge: as one of the most low-lying countries in the world, a rise of three feet in sea level would submerge the 1200 islands of the Maldives enough to make them uninhabitable.

#### INTENTIO

<http://vimeo.com/23460129>

Producer: Loic Wirth (Brazil)

TRT: 48 mins

KEY SURFERS: Marco Giorgi, Craig Anderson, Jean da Silva KEY LOCATIONS: Indonesia, New Zealand, Europe

A moment to breathe and think... and ask questions about the world we live in, and the way we live in it. *Intentio* intends to spread a positive energy with subjective messages, to be interpreted in different ways from different persons, having the ocean and the surfers as a platform to do so.

Winner of the Audience Award for Best Film at the International Film Festival Anglet, France

Winner of the Best Performance Award at the San Sebastian International Film Festival, Spain

Winner of the Best Photograph Award at the International Film Festival Mimpi, Brasil

## CHASING MAVERICKS

[http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1629757/?ref\\_=sr\\_1](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1629757/?ref_=sr_1)

Director: Michael Apted

TRT: 116 mins

Fiction film based on the inspirational true story of real life surfing phenom Jay Moriarty. When 15 year old Jay discovers that the mythic Mavericks surf break, one of the biggest waves on Earth, is not only real, but exists just miles from his Santa Cruz home, he enlists the help of local legend Frosty Hesson to train him to survive it. As Jay and Frosty embark on their quest to accomplish the impossible, they form a unique friendship that transforms both their lives, and their quest to tame Mavericks becomes about far more than surfing.

## RAW

[www.rawthemovie.com](http://www.rawthemovie.com)

Directors: Cohan Banfield and Mark Brightwell

TRT: 55 mins

RAW THE MOVIE is a new vision in surf film making, combining surfing, the art of cinematography, and a mindful use of editing that synchronizes vision and audio. The film showcases a diverse range of the world's best surfers. RAW THE MOVIE will inspire, motivate and just amaze surfers, enthusiasts and non-believers alike.

## HERE AND NOW

Producer: Taylor Steele

TRT:

This film was shot in one day. More than 25 filmmakers and surfers worked in unison to document the world of surfing in a single 24-hour period: May 2, 2012. From world champs like Kelly Slater and Stephanie Gilmore to free spirits like Dave Rastovich, Ozzy Wright and Alex Knost, this project brings together shapers, photographers, legends, beginners, third world, first world and surf world. Some scored big. Others couldn't find a ripple. It's all part of the surfing experience. From contests to camping, hanging at home or hitting the road, veteran surf filmmaker Taylor Steele pulls together an epic, international cast to prove the best place to be is here and now.

STARRING: Kelly Slater, Dave Rastovich, Ozzy Wright, Alex Knost, Rob Machado, Stephanie Gilmore, Conner Coffin, Matt Meola, Jay Davies, Albee Layer, Ford Archbold, Gabriel Villaran, Dede Suryana, Leif Engstrom, Peter Devries, Reubyn Ash, Grant Baker, Garut Widiarta, Mikala Jones, Steve Sherman, Ellis Ericson, Brad Gerlach, Noah Cohen, Alex Gray, Ezekial Lau, Andrew Serrano, Junior Faria, Gilbert Brown, Lauren Lindsey Hill, Jack Robinson

## SURFING AND SHARKS

<http://surfingandsharks.com/>

Producer:

TRT: 50 mins

In South Africa between Durban and JBay lies approx 1000km of untamed topographical and oceanic paradise, in the middle is the Wild Coast. For local surfers Lungani Memani, Andrew Lange and Avuyile Ndamase, it's their home. Every year in June the ocean swells to it's peak, hosting the countries largest surf conditions and also becomes host to the sardine run bringing together a huge marine bio-diversity including many species of sharks.

This documentary goes up close with Pro Surfers Lungani, Andrew and Avuyile, their family's traditions and tribulations along side a hand selected group of the best shark experts from the region to uncover the real secrets and stories that surround the shark stigma that exists in South Africa.

## ONCE UPON A TIDE

[http://chge.med.harvard.edu/programs/healthyceans/once\\_upon\\_a\\_tide/home.html](http://chge.med.harvard.edu/programs/healthyceans/once_upon_a_tide/home.html)

TRT: 8 mins

Working with award-winning filmmakers (Sea Studios Foundation) and animation studio (LAIKA/house) the Center for Health and the Global Environment at Harvard Medical School produced a 10-minute film that reconnects its audience to the importance of the marine environment for all life on Earth, including human life.

Unlike conventional natural history documentaries, the film title Once Upon a Tide, is a fictional narrative that blends the moral and visual elements of a fairy tale to inspire us to recognize the importance of ocean conservation. This modern day fable is an innovative educational approach that will be shown in aquariums, museums, theaters and schools nationally and internationally. Film distribution includes educational 'take-away' guides for viewers.

Once Upon a Tide is receiving accolades from around the world. It has won Best in Show at the Santa Barbara Ocean Film Festival and a Special Jury Selection at the Wildscreen International Wildlife and Environmental Film Festival, the 'Green Oscars' of environmental filmmaking.

## WILD OCEAN 3D

Producers: Luke Cresswell, Steve McNicholas

TRT: 45 mins

Each year an unbelievable feeding frenzy takes place in the oceans of South Africa as billions of sardines migrate up the KwaZulu-Natal Coast. Wild Ocean captures spectacular breaching whales, feeding sharks, diving gannets, and massive bait balls inside and up close on the giant screen. The migration has provided an annual food source for both life in the sea and the people living along the African shores for countless generations. The film demonstrates how business, government, and the local people have joined forces to protect this invaluable ecological resource. Wild Ocean will delve audiences into an epic underwater struggle for survival and

reveal the economic and cultural impact the migration has on the coastal communities. Produced by the creators of STOMP and Academy Award nominated directors of Pulse: a STOMP Odyssey, Wild Ocean is an explosive, symphonic documentary film about man and nature.

#### THE LAST REEF

<http://www.thelastreef.co.uk/>

Producers: Luke Cresswell, Steve McNicholas, D.J. Roller

TRT: 40 mins

FLY ACROSS iridescent tropical reefs, brush through a cloud of a million jellyfish, visit an alien world where the closer you look, the more you see, where the tiniest creatures support the greatest predators... We think of reefs as exotic, distant places with little or no connection to our everyday world. Yet every reef is a living city beneath the sea with a parallel existence to ours, distant yet undeniably connected. Reefs are hotspots of biodiversity as vital to life on earth as the rain-forests. They have been shaping our shorelines, literally forming islands and mountains, for millions of years. The fossil record shows that given time they have recovered from all of earth's major extinction events. Even reefs pulverized by atomic blasts at Bikini Atoll have regenerated. Yet within our lifetime reefs have come to face their greatest threat...

