

WE ARE GUARDIANS

Documentary Feature

Mídia Índia, One Forest, Highly Flammable, Random Good



Directed by

Edivan Guajajara, Chelsea Greene, Rob Grobman

Produced by

Fisher Stevens, Maura Anderson, Chelsea Greene, Zak Kilberg

Executive Produced by

Christopher Gebhardt, Randy Gebhardt, Bruce Cohen,
Edivan Guajajara, Flay Guajajara, Erisvan Bone Guajajara,
Rob Grobman, Iz Web, Luiza Krapels, Marco Krapels

Running Time: 82 Minutes

Sales:

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Publicity:

Sunshine Sachs | Brooke Blumberg | blumberg@ssmandl.com

FESTIVAL SCREENINGS

WORLD/CANADA PREMIERE

[Hot Docs Canadian International Documentary Festival](#)

Special Presentations program

May 3, 2023

US/NY PREMIERE

New York Human Rights Watch Film Festival (NY HRWFF)

in partnership with Film at Lincoln Center and IFC Center

May 31-June 11, 2023

LOGLINE

As the Indigenous forest guardians of the Tenetehara fend off the incessant encroachment of illegal loggers and invaders, a global story erupts entwining science, politics and ultimately the fate of the Amazon rainforest.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

We Are Guardians follows Indigenous forest guardian Marçal Guajajara and activist Puyr Tembê as they fight to protect their territories from deforestation, an illegal logger who has no choice but to cut the forest down, and a large landowner at the mercy of thousands of invaders and extractive industry. Through intimate, character focused storytelling, the film brings the issues to the forefront — from the science of the Amazon Rainforest and its pivotal role in our global climate stability to the economic drivers of deforestation. The film weaves together politics, history, economics, science, and consciousness, providing an in-depth exploration of this incredibly complex and critical situation — the origins and the impact of which ripple out far beyond the boundaries of the Amazon itself. Directed by Indigenous activist Edivan Guajajara and environmental filmmakers Chelsea Greene and Rob Grobman; produced by Academy Award winner Fisher Stevens.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENTS

Este filme é muito importante. Não conta só a história do meu povo e da minha comunidade, ele reforça um pedido de que precisamos estarmos atentos e nos unir cada vez mais para cuidar de nossa Mãe-terra e cuidarmos daqueles que dão a vida pela pelas florestas, pela preservação e manutenção da biodiversidade no mundo. Esta é a nossa força. Estamos juntos nessa luta.

[This film is very important. It not only tells the story of my people and my community, it reinforces the need to be attentive and unite more and more to take care of our Mother Earth and take care of those who give their lives for forests, for the preservation and maintenance of biodiversity in the world. This is our strength. We are all together in this fight.]

- Edivan Guajajara, Director/Producer/Cinematographer

When we heard the Amazon was burning in 2019, wildfires were tearing across our home state of Oregon and the western United States. We felt called to find out what was really happening in Brazil: were these wildfires as well? Were they being set intentionally, and if so, who was doing it, and why? With so much of the world on

fire from the escalating effects of climate change, how could people also be burning one of our last hopes of climate stabilization?

Through the smoke and confusion of the media coming from Brazil and the international community, we decided to mobilize and uncover the truth. We wanted to hear from those closest to the forest, and the fires, what was happening, from their perspective. This film is a small window into the lives of these courageous people and the landscape of the Brazilian Amazon today. Our hearts have been deeply moved by all of them, but most of all by the power and beauty of this incredible forest.

- Chelsea Greene & Rob Grobman of One Forest, Directors/Producers/Cinematographers/Editors

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

EDIVAN GUAJAJARA | DIRECTOR, PRODUCER, CINEMATOGRAPHER

Edivan Guajajara is from the Zutiwa village, located in Arariboia Indigenous Land (Maranhão, Brazil) and one of the creators of the communication network Mídia Índia. As an activist & filmmaker, he creates photography and documentaries centering indigenous peoples' perspectives, showcasing their struggle of land protection and defense of Mother Earth. As a designer and video editor, he uses his gift to create art pieces that give visibility to the ongoing fight of the Brazilian indigenous peoples, a people who have resisted for 521 years.

"Film has given us the opportunity to show our culture and our resistance. Today we have our own way of communicating and spreading our works so that people can know our true history and strengthen our struggle. My greatest inspiration as an indigenous is showing our reality and telling that we are also capable of being what we want to be, and showing to the world how much we indigenous peoples are important to the survival of our planet."

CHELSEA GREENE & ROB GROBMAN (ONE FOREST) | DIRECTORS, PRODUCERS, CINEMATOGRAPHERS, EDITORS

One Forest was formed with the mission to help people reconnect to themselves and to nature. Comprised of filmmakers Chelsea Greene and Rob Grobman, One Forest is dedicated to creating impactful and heartfelt films and media. They view the art of storytelling as a sacred work, which endows their stories with a deep reverence for the earth and the characters they feature. They have recently produced two award winning short documentaries, BORNEO'S VANISHING TRIBES and GORILLA GIRL. Their commitment to authentic, integral and informative stories paired with their youth, ambition and drive as individuals, make this unique duo and their work exceptional, relevant and inspiring. One Forest lives and works in the mountains of Southern Oregon.

MAURA ANDERSON | PRODUCER

MAURA ANDERSON has worked in independent film production since 2006. She production managed academy award nominated WINTER'S BONE, Sundance darling ON THE ICE, and CEREMONY among others. She has since produced countless features and series working with the likes of Rodrigo Garcia, Julia Stiles and Jon Avnet. She made her narrative directorial debut with HEARTLAND, starring Laura Spencer & Beth Grant, which won the audience award at its 2016 Cinequest premiere and went on to play at over 20 festivals around the world

eventually landing on Hulu. She produced THE INNOCENT MAN, a 6 part Netflix documentary series, with Clay Tweel and Campfire TV and THE MOST DANGEROUS ANIMAL OF ALL, a 4 part FX documentary series with Kief Davidson and Campfire; She went on to co-executive produce MENU DO: FOREVER YOUNG, a 4 part HBO Max series directed by Angel Manuel Soto and Kristofer Rios as well as SINS OF OUR MOTHER directed by Skye Borgman with Lightbox for Netflix; along with several projects for Obama and Netflix's Higher Ground including ADA TWIST and WAFFLE'S AND MOCHI'S HOLIDAY FEAST for which she was nominated for an Emmy. She went on to co-direct a feature documentary on FIFA corruption with Clay Tweel, produced by Campfire, Studio 101 and Raindog Films and released on Amazon UK. She recently teamed up with Oscar winner Fisher Stevens (THE COVE, BEFORE THE FLOOD, PALMER, DEAR EDWARD) and Zak Kilberg (THE MAURITANIAN, BELLINGCAT) to start Highly Flammable, a production shingle producing & directing scripted & documentary projects that strives to make a positive impact on the world through art.

ZAK KILBERG | PRODUCER

Producer Zak Kilberg is the founder of Social Construct, a bold production company dedicated to curating a range of socially relevant and impactful media projects. Kilberg's producing projects, which include 2021 Golden Globe-winner THE MAURITANIAN and 2019 International Emmy winner BELLINGCAT, have been acquired by top distributors worldwide, including Universal, Lionsgate, Netflix, HBO, Showtime, IFC, Amazon Studios, STX, etc., as well as boasting laurels from Sundance, Berlin, SXSW, Hotdocs, IDFA and BAFTA. He recently minted Highly Flammable, a production shingle running a slate of scripted and documentary projects with fellow producers Emmy-nominated Maura Anderson and Academy Award winner Fisher Stevens. Zak runs Social Construct with his partner Iz Web, in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Asheville, NC.

FISHER STEVENS | PRODUCER

FISHER STEVENS has been in the entertainment business for almost 40 years. His versatility in the industry is evident from his wide range of credits, from acting to directing to producing, from feature film to documentary, and from television to theater. In 2010, he won the Academy Award for the documentary [The Cove](#). Political and environmental activism has been a main focus of his work. Most recently, Stevens directed and executive produced Showtime's five-part series *The Lincoln Project* along with Oscar-nominated director Karim Amer (*The Square*). The series follows the PAC formed by current and former Republicans with the goal of ousting Trump from power. Earlier this year, Stevens executive produced and directed the first episode of "Dear Edward," a new 10-episode drama series for Apple TV+ based on the novel by Ann Napolitano and written, showrun and executive produced by Jason Katims. Currently, Stevens is directing and executive producing a definitive multi-part series for Netflix profiling the life of famed athlete, David Beckham. Last year, Stevens directed [Palmer](#) starring Justin Timberlake, which premiered with record viewership on Apple TV. In 2020, he executive-produced Netflix sensation ["Tiger King: Murder, Mayhem and Madness."](#) In 2022 he started Highly Flammable with fellow producers Zak Kilberg and Maura Anderson – a production shingle covering scripted and documentary projects that he will both produce and direct. When he's not directing and producing, Stevens is a series regular on the Golden Globe and Emmy-Winning HBO series "Succession."

Other notable directorial credits include [And We Go Green](#), a documentary about the electric car racing series Formula E on Hulu, "The Confidence Man," the last installment of the Netflix original series "Dirty Money"

executive-produced by Oscar®-winning documentarian Alex Gibney, National Geographic's [Before The Flood](#) with Leonardo DiCaprio, and the two time Emmy-nominated HBO documentary [Bright Lights: Starring Carrie Fisher and Debbie Reynolds](#), which he co-directed. In earlier years, Stevens directed the Emmy-nominated Netflix original *Mission Blue*, co-directed the 2008 Independent Spirit Award-Winning Best Documentary *Crazy Love* and produced Louie Psihoyos' [Racing Extinction](#) for Discovery as well as Netflix's *Sky Ladder: The Art of Cai Guo-Qiang*. Outside of the documentary realm, Stevens directed *Stand Up Guys* for Lionsgate starring Al Pacino, Christopher Walken and Alan Arkin as well as "John Leguizamo's Ghetto Klown" on Broadway and HBO.

As an actor Stevens has been seen in numerous Broadway shows, television series and movies including "Succession," "The Blacklist," "The Good Fight," "Lost," "Friends," *Motherless Brooklyn*, The Coen Brothers' *Hail, Caesar!*, and Wes Anderson's *Grand Budapest Hotel*, *Isle of Dogs* and latest film *The French Dispatch*.

RANDY GEBHARDT | EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

After a 30 year business career, Randy created RandomGood with the vision of improving quality of life and environmental conservation around the world, sparked by his passion as a wildlife photographer. Before launching RandomGood, Randy was an entrepreneur and consumer behavior expert. He co-founded Quantum Health, a Coordinated Health/Care company that uses behavioral science to help patients navigate the healthcare system. Randy spent 18 years as an international business strategy consultant and has co-authored two university textbooks on consumer behavior and marketing.

CHRIS GEBHARDT | EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Christopher is a leader in using storytelling to drive social impact, applying a strategic framework he developed at his impact agency/consultancy Stir and while serving as Participant Media's EVP for digital, brand, and business development. At Participant, he led the creation of digital communities and created impact agency/consultancy Tag, which had clients Disney, Intel, American Express, MacArthur Foundation, and Gates Foundation. Prior to Participant, he was a pioneer in branded entertainment at Pepsi, Ogilvy-where he was the head of emerging technology and innovation—and as co-founder of Integrated Entertainment Partners. He was also a consultant at PriceWaterhouseCoopers, and has an MBA from Northwestern's Kellogg School. He is an Edmund Hillary Fellow and a fellow of the RSA. He teaches at UCLA's Anderson School and served as Chair of the Ad Council Issue Advisory Board.

BRUCE COHEN | EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

BRUCE COHEN is an Oscar and Tony-winning, Emmy-nominated producer of film, television, theater and live events. He won an Academy Award for Best Picture for AMERICAN BEAUTY and earned additional Best Picture nominations for MILK and SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK. He was Emmy nominated for producing the 83RD ANNUAL ACADEMY AWARDS, and executive produced PUSHING DAISIES and BROADWAY AT THE WHITE HOUSE for First Lady Michelle Obama. He produced both the feature film and Broadway musical versions of BIG FISH, won the Tony for Best Play in 2020 for co-producing Matthew Lopez' THE INHERITANCE, and was Tony nominated for co-producing Jeremy O. Harris' SLAVE PLAY. His next feature film, which will be in theaters this fall from Netflix, is RUSTIN, directed by George C. Wolfe and starring Colman Domingo as Bayard Rustin. Bruce is producing with Higher Ground, Barack and Michelle Obama's production company. Cohen is a graduate of Yale University and started his film career as the DGA Trainee on Steven Spielberg's *The Color Purple*. He lives

in New York City with his husband and daughter.

TRINA WYATT | CO-PRODUCER (CONSCIOUS GOOD)

Trina is a film producer, entertainment studio executive, author and entrepreneur at the intersection of media and technology. Currently Trina is Founder and CEO of Conscious Good, a global, community-first media ecosystem for conscious creators (via its Creators Network) and audiences (via CGood TV) - for everyone seeking to live well and do good.

Earlier in her career, Trina launched the Tribeca Film Festival for Robert De Niro and took the reigns as its first Festival Director. Besides Tribeca Entertainment, Trina has also held leadership positions with companies such as Prana Studios (purchased Rhythm & Hues), Intrepid Pictures, Withoutabox (sold to Amazon), Film Independent and Turner Pictures.

In addition to *We Are Guardians*, Trina's producing credits include the documentaries *Make People Better* and *Unveiled: Joyce Tenneson and the Heroine's Journey* and the feature *Broken Diamonds*, starring Ben Platt, among others. She is currently in pre-production on the feature film, *A Birder's Guide to the Mating Habits of Widows*, Téa Leoni's directorial debut.

Trina received her MBA from NYU and an undergraduate degree in economics from UCLA.

ATANAS GEORGIEV | EDITOR

Producer, Director, Editor, Sound and Music Editor Atanas Georgiev's directorial and producing debut, *Cash & Marry*, has won many international awards and recognition. This was followed by *Avec l'amour* which was a festival favorite in 2017 premiering at HOTDOCS, and right after that with *Honeyland* in 2019, a triple winner at Sundance Film Festival and Nominated for 2 Academy Awards, Best Documentary and Best International Feature for 2020. He is the owner and head producer at Trice Films and a distinguished professor at the Shanghai Film Academy.

CARLA RODA | EDITOR

Carla Roda is an award-winning editor from Barcelona, who has been based in Los Angeles since 2014. Most recently, she edited the documentary series "Menudo: Forever Young" for HBO Max, and the british documentary feature "KICKBACK" (Campfire Studios) about corruption within FIFA.

Additional credits include the docuseries "Phenoms" (Fox Searchlight), official selection at Tribeca Film Festival, 2018, "The Green Wave" (Screen Media) which won Best Feature Documentary at the Los Angeles International Film Festival, "Our Quinceañera," a two-time winner of the Audience Award for Best Documentary Feature, "Vote Neil," an Official Selection at Tribeca Film Festival, 2020 and the feature documentary "Invented Before You Were Born", Orson Wells Award Winner at the TIFF, 2022.

In 2019, Carla was selected for The Karen Schmeer Film Editing Fellowship, a program designed to cultivate the careers of editors from diverse backgrounds.

VICKIE CURTIS | STORY ADVISOR

Vickie Curtis is an Emmy-winning filmmaker, writer, and story architect adapting true stories for the screen. She focuses on elevating nonfiction films with the same strong characters that make great fiction so compelling.

She has written films including Emmy-winning Netflix original films THE SOCIAL DILEMMA and CHASING CORAL, which had their world premieres at Sundance Film Festival. She has also acted as a writer and story architect for films including CLASSIC (Denver Film), THE WEIGHT OF WATER (BANFF), ISLAND SOLDIER (HotDocs), ANBESSA (Berlinale), FRAME BY FRAME (SXSW, Cinema Eye Nominee) and more. She is currently in post production directing her debut feature film, COMPARSA. In Comparsa, two teenage sisters use their unique brand of community organizing and explosive public performance to fight back against violence and discrimination in their neighborhood on the outskirts of Guatemala City.

MEGAN FRIEND | IMPACT PRODUCER (RANDOM GOOD FOUNDATION)

Megan is responsible for managing RandomGood's digital and impact strategies. Megan works closely with RandomGood's filmmakers on conceptualizing campaigns meant to drive impact, awareness and systems-change, and build communities around critical issues. Megan has dedicated her career to fighting the climate crisis, protecting wildlife and natural places, and advancing environmental justice. She's an expert environmental communicator, activist, storyteller, and strategic thinker. Megan spent 5 years developing advocacy campaigns around environmental and public health issues for the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). Before that, she worked at Participant Media where she managed a NGO partnership program of 160+ orgs, developed creative ways for storytelling to drive impact, and planned large-scale events including a slam poetry salon and an event around stopping the dolphin slaughter in Japan. Megan has done freelance writing for Billboard Magazine, the LA Weekly, and the Huffington Post. She's an avid scuba diver and received a grant to do underwater climate research and sea turtle rehabilitation work on the Great Barrier Reef. Megan is an aspiring beekeeper and is passionate about seeing live music, writing poetry, practicing yoga and meditation, and traveling. She's fluent in French, and studied International Affairs and Philosophy at George Washington University.

MÍDIA ÍNDIA | PRODUCTION COMPANY

Mídia Índia is a collective formed by Indigenous peoples, from different communities and regions. One of the main objectives of Mídia Índia is to ensure representative communication. Founded in 2017, the collective formed by young Indigenous communicators was created to give visibility to traditional peoples' struggle and fight for rights. Present on all digital platforms, the initiative currently has 200 collaborators from different communities and has greatly contributed to the union and mobilization of Indigenous peoples. They have a podcast, make short films and longer form content, and they're also focused on journalism, advocacy, and photography.

HIGHLY FLAMMABLE | PRODUCTION COMPANY

Oscar-winning, multi-hyphenate Fisher Stevens, the producer behind award-winning documentaries THE COVE and TIGER KING, and director of the acclaimed features PALMER (Apple) and BEFORE THE FLOOD (NatGeo), has joined forces with producer Zak Kilberg and producer/director Maura Anderson to form Highly Flammable, a production company with groundbreaking content as explosive as its name. Anderson is an Emmy nominated producer, who has produced documentary series for Netflix, FX, HBO, and Obama's Higher Ground. She recently co-directed feature documentary KICKBACK about FIFA corruption, and she is in production and development on several feature documentaries as both director and producer. Kilberg's producing projects, which include 2021 Golden Globe-winner The Mauritanian and 2019 International Emmy-winner Bellingcat,

have been acquired by top distributors worldwide, including Universal, Lionsgate, Netflix, HBO, Showtime, IFC, Amazon Studios, STX, etc., as well as boasting laurels from Sundance, Berlin, SXSW, Hotdocs, IDFA and BAFTA. Brought together by the shared goal of delivering world class, critically acclaimed and commercially profitable content to global audiences, the Highly Flammable creative team also share the desire to make a positive impact on our world through their art.

RANDOM GOOD | PRODUCTION COMPANY

RandomGood funds and produces RADICALLY HOPEFUL stories that raise awareness about important social and environmental issues. Whether told through film, photographs, music, or words, stories inspire hope. They change the world by changing how we see the world. RandomGood supports emerging storytellers as they conceive, photograph, film, write, edit, and produce stories that promote better living conditions and fairness, and help educate and activate individuals regarding habitat, wildlife, and climate disruption.

CREDITS

A FILM BY

MÍDIA ÍNDIA
ONE FOREST
HIGHLY FLAMMABLE
RANDOM GOOD

DIRECTORS

EDIVAN GUAJAJARA
CHELSEA GREENE
ROB GROBMAN

PRODUCERS

FISHER STEVENS
MAURA ANDERSON
CHELSEA GREENE
ZAK KILBERG

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS

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FLAY GUAJAJARA
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IZ WEB
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MARCO KRAPELS

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BRIGIT GRIMM
MICHAEL GRIMM
HEATHER CONFORTO BEATTY
SCOTT BEATTY

CO-PRODUCERS

TRINA WYATT (CONSCIOUS GOOD)

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER

CAITLIN LAWRIE

IMPACT PRODUCER (RANDOM GOOD FOUNDATION)

MEGAN FRIEND

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CARLA RODA
ROB GROBMAN
CHELSEA GREENE

CONSULTING EDITOR

ALYSE SPIEGEL

STORY ADVISOR

VICKIE CURTIS

CINEMATOGRAPHERS

EDIVAN GUAJAJARA
CHELSEA GREENE
ROB GROBMAN

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JACOB YOFFEE & ROAHN HYLTON

ADDITIONAL MUSIC BY

PUPILLO

GRAPHICS BY

DYAD

PRODUCTION ACCOUNTANT

MAGGIE DUNLAP

FEATURING

VALDIR DUARTE
MARÇAL GUAJAJARA
TADEU FERNANDES
PUYR TEMBÉ
LUCIANA GATTI

SONJA GUAJAJARA
BRUNO STANKEVICIOUS BASSI

(complete credits list coming soon)

IN THE PRESS

[Einstein's Brain, Wagner Mercenaries, Shere Hite Among Subjects of Films
in Hot Docs' Special Presentations Section](#)

-Variety, March 21, 2023