



# **MADMAN**

Presents

## **THE COVE**

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MEDIA CONTACTS ON LAST PAGE

**A Jim Clark Film**  
**An Oceanic Preservation Society Production**



**Directed by Louie Psihoyos**  
**Produced by Paula DuPré Pesmen, Fisher Stevens**  
**Written by Mark Monroe**  
**Co-Producer Olivia Ahnemann**  
**Executive Producer Jim Clark**

**Running time: 90 mins**  
**Australian & NZ Distributor**  
**Gil Scrine Films / Madman Entertainment**

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**MADMAN ENTERTAINMENT**

## **SYNOPSIS**

In the 1960's, Richard O'Barry was the world's leading authority on dolphin training, working on the set of the popular television program Flipper. Day in and day out, O'Barry kept the dolphins working and television audiences smiling. But one day, that all came to a tragic end. THE COVE, directed by Louie Psihoyos, tells the amazing true story of how Psihoyos, O'Barry and an elite team of activists, filmmakers and freedivers embarked on a covert mission to penetrate a hidden cove in Japan, shining light on a dark and deadly secret. The mysteries they uncovered were only the tip of the iceberg.

## **Q&A WITH DIRECTOR LOUIE PSIHOYOS**

### **How did you first hear about the Taiji dolphin cove and what drew you to the issue?**

I was attending a conference of 2000 of the top marine mammal scientists and Richard O'Barry, who captured and trained Flipper for the movie and television series, was supposed to be a keynote speaker one evening. Richard is now perhaps the most vocal dolphin advocate in the world speaking out against the captive dolphin industry. At the last minute, Richard was banned from talking to the group by the event's sponsor, Sea World.

I was curious about why he wasn't allowed to talk and he said he was going to talk about this secret cove in Japan where the dolphin traffickers select most dolphins for dolphinariums and swim with dolphin parks. He told me they were slaughtering the ones they didn't choose and giving them away to school lunch programs. I couldn't imagine any civilization killing dolphins and Richard invited me along the following week to see Taiji, the little town with this big secret.

### **How did the project and crew come together?**

The secret cove is a natural fortress, protected on three sides by steep cliffs. The entrance on one side is protected by a series of high spiked gates with barbed wire and razor ribbons, and there are two tunnel entrances protected by guards and dogs. After a tour of the town with Richard, I contacted the Taiji mayor's office and the dolphin hunters union – I wanted to get their side of the story and I wanted to do the story legally. I had noticed that I had picked up a tail; I had 24 hour police surveillance while I was in town. But the town was not interested in cooperating – they were making too much money with the captive dolphin industry to jeopardize it by having a journalist milling about. The mayor told me that I could get hurt or killed by getting too close to the dolphin hunters or the secret cove. The cove, oddly enough, is in the middle of a National Park right in the center of town, between city hall and the whale museum. The town was like out of a Steven King novel - outwardly the whole town was about the reverence and respect and love of dolphins and whales, but what was happening in the secret cove belied another story, one I was determined to get at. Richard told me that to penetrate the secret cove you would need to get a Navy Seal team, and that is pretty much what I did, but my team was more of an Ocean's Eleven team.

I enlisted my friends Mandy Rae-Cruickshank and Kirk Krack to help us set underwater cameras and hydrophones. Mandy is an eight-time world champion freediver. She can hold her breath for 6 and a half minutes and dive down to almost to 300 feet and back on her own power. Her husband, Kirk, is also a freediver. A former photo assistant of mine went on to become the head mold maker at ILM, Industrial Light and Magic, Lucas' 3-D division and they helped us make fake rocks to hide high definition cameras and microphones. An electronics expert, formerly with the Canadian Air Force helped us hot rod the hard drive cameras with larger drives powered by expedition batteries used for climbers on Mount Everest. He also helped us make unmanned drones so we had aerial support and video - a remote controlled helicopter with a gyro-stabilized high definition camera below it as well as a blimp with a remote controlled camera. Some pirate friends from the islands helped me place the cameras and many nights we were in blinds in full camo and face paint. We foiled the guards and police many nights by the use of high-definition military grade thermal cameras to scan the hills for movement, and an assortment of other diversionary techniques.

The Cove was not your normal film crew. Most of our work happened in the middle of the night with the police on our tail - that provided our biggest challenge, trying to avoid arrest.

**What were your biggest challenges during filming?**

Early on in the formation of our non-profit film company, I met Steven Spielberg; he asked what I did for a living. He advised me from his work on Jaws to never work on boats or with animals because of the unpredictability and high cost. Well, we used a lot of boats in the making of The Cove and we had to work with a lot of large uncooperative animals. And I would add - we had to work mostly at night, undercover trying to get into a cove where we could be killed or arrested and put in jail for months if we were caught. Such was the making of The Cove, a first-time director's nightmare.

**Have you always been involved in animal rights issues? If not, why dolphins?**

I have been a vegetarian, or rather a pescatarian, for 20 years. I eat fish but nothing that walks.

Now, I don't eat any fish very high up on the food chain because I learned from the making of this movie that I have mercury poisoning - very high levels of mercury from eating apex predators, fish at the top of the food chain like tuna, marlin, striped bass and grouper.

My attitudes about animals have changed considerably since making this film. I've bought Vegan shoes and stopped wearing leather belts. My sensitivity to all animal life has been heightened because once you have your eyes open to their plight it's difficult to close your heart up again.

Dolphins have larger brains than us, there are more folds for neurons, they have an extra sense - sonar - and they are the only wild animal known to come to the rescue of humans. They have been legendary for extraordinary feats of compassion since man had the ability to write. They have always come to our rescue and I thought that it is about time somebody tried to rescue them. Taiji is the largest slaughter of dolphins on the planet.

**What is the most interesting thing you learned or took away from filming and your time in Taiji?**

Because the Japanese people are still subjects and part of this vanishing notion of empire, they trust their government. But the government does not want them to know basic information that would affect their health, like the dolphin meat is many more times toxic than their own country's health standards. There is a systematic cover-up of mercury and dolphin hunting issues in Japan. The people profiting from this industry are in the government and corruption is rampant.

**Have there been any interesting developments or changes since you left Taiji?**

Dolphin meat used to be part of school lunch programs there. That stopped this year. Richard and our organization, the Oceanic Preservation Society, had a hand in that. Our work with a toxicity expert there eventually reached several Taiji town council members, who had their own children in the school system, and who did their own tests on dolphin meat. These confirmed our findings.

School children across Wakamaya prefecture are no longer fed toxic dolphin meat for school lunch programs. As a result, the head of the fisheries, Hideki Moronuki, who had set the quotas for dolphins and porpoises and whales, has been fired but the hunt for dolphins is going on right now as I write this movie. We hope awareness will shut the dolphin drive down by next year, once the Japanese people learn about it.

**Can you tell us more about the Oceanic Preservation Society and how it was created?**

The founder of the Oceanic Preservation Society is the inventor and venture capitalist Jim Clark, a modern day Zelig who built three groundbreaking industries from scratch. He worked himself out of poverty and in college he helped set up the computer systems that sent man to the moon. As a professor at Stanford, he invented the first 3-D graphics engine computer chip with Silicon Graphics, the first commercial internet browser with Netscape. After he discovered he had a rare blood disease, he created WebMd, a portal that connects doctors and patients with the most recent medical and health information. At the forefront of innovation his whole life, he has also been an avid diver and sailor, traveling to the world's best preserved reefs but also witnessing the collapse of the oceans in his lifetime. He founded OPS to create films and stills to raise awareness of the plight of the oceans, a demise that also jeopardizes humanity, as we derive 70% of our protein from seafood, a diminishing and increasingly and polluted resource.

**What do you hope people will take away from the film and the difficult issues presented?**

First, I hope people stop taking their children to dolphin amusement parks and swim with dolphin

programs – having intelligent sentient animals perform stupid tricks for our amusement is a form of bad education for our children. Secondly, I hope the Japanese people stop killing dolphins for food because, ethical reasons aside, all dolphin meat is toxic and not fit for human or animal consumption. Third, dolphins and whales are polluted mainly because of the dumping in the ocean of toxins from man's activities. The burning of fossil fuels, particularly coal, contributes to most of the build-up of mercury in the environment so getting us off coal is important in saving the oceans. At the OPS headquarters we have 117 solar panels that now generate 140% of our energy needs. We have two electric cars that are totally powered from energy generated from the sun.

### **DOLPHIN FACTS**

Notes from The Cove, an intelligent/action/adventure/Ocean's Eleven-like horror film wrapped around a tale of redemption and ultimate revenge – oh, and it's a documentary.

Dolphins, part of the cetacean branch, are mammals that began developing about 55 million years ago. Homo sapiens began a few million years ago. There are 32 species of ocean dolphins and 4 of river dolphins. The Yangtze River dolphin was declared extinct by the IWC in 2008 due to pollution and boat strikes. Many more dolphin species are expected to follow due to being caught up in fishing nets, boats strikes and pollution.

A bottlenose dolphin can dive to about 330 feet on one breath of air; OPS world champion free-diver Mandy-Rae Cruickshank can to dive to 88 meters or about 289 feet. With a long breath-up Mandy can hold her breath for about 6 ½ minutes - about as long as the maximum a bottlenose can do on a normal dive. Dolphin blood has more hemoglobin, which allows them to store about 10 times more oxygen than their average land mammal counterparts.

Dolphins are the most social creatures on the planet; often both male and females stay in the same pod for life. Orcas, the largest of the dolphin family, stay with their mother for life. If the matriarch of the pod is killed or captured, much of the knowledge of the pod is not passed on to the survivors. The Taiji dolphin hunters routinely slaughter every dolphin they can get their hands on, even mothers and their calf, a practice that is supposed to be banned. Caught on video but not put in the film, dolphin hunters are overheard discussing with each other how they had just killed a mother and calf, but expressed relief that they were not reprimanded by the union officials who had witnessed the illegal kill.

Dolphins generally have a much larger brain than humans. The average bottlenose dolphin brain is about 1500-1700 cc's (0.9% of body weight) and the average human brain is about 1300 – 1400 cc's. (2.0% of body weight), however there seems to be very little correlation between brain size and intelligence. The tree shrew, with a brain size of 3% of its body weight, is the mammal with the largest brain size as a percentage of body mass. More telling perhaps is that the convolutions, or folds of the brain with grey matter, are much greater in dolphins which give them more surface area for neurons. The largest known brain in the universe – the brain of the Sperm Whale - is eight times larger than a human brain. A human's brain size is between the whale and the cow.

Dolphins are the only known wild animals that will come to the rescue of a human being. The Cove, David Rastovich, probably the best-known free surfer in the world, tells how he was rescued from a shark attack by a bottlenose dolphin. On a dive trip to Rangiroa in Polynesia, a pod of resident dolphins playing in the deep blue around director Louie Psihoyos left suddenly to attack and push away an approaching large great hammerhead shark.

Some Scientists think that part of the larger cetacean brain function is so they can process sonar. Sonar is the primary sense of dolphins. The best sonar man has is a toy compared to that of the dolphins. Dolphins can use their sonar to see your heart beating or to tell if you are pregnant. A dolphin pod approached the OPS team diving at the Great Barrier Reef, ignored us and locked in one of our female friends who was pregnant. A human fetus until the last few months of development in a women's womb looks remarkably like a dolphin fetus. Dolphins can distinguish, from large distances, the different metals coins are made from.

Dolphins can hear and communicate in a far larger range than humans can. Dolphin hearing ranges from about 75 hertz to over 150 kilohertz but most humans can only hear a much smaller spectrum of sound, from about 20 Hertz to 20 kilohertz. A dolphin can use both clicks and whistles to communicate in the same breath. Clicks are thought to be used primarily for echolocation and whistles for communication. A dolphin can click a thousand times a second and some people think they can use their clicks to stun potential prey.

Dolphins can understand about 90 commands of American Sign Language but humans do not yet understand one word of dolphin language.

Navy testing from next generation sonic devices has been known to cause damage to the brains of cetaceans miles away from test areas. Even at 100 miles away, whales and dolphins can hear the sound at 140 decibels, like standing next to an F-15 fighter jet taking off. Whole dolphin and whale pods are frequently found washed up on the shore near navy sonar test sites around the world.

There are two general types of cetaceans, baleen whales and toothed whales. Baleen whales have long flexible rows of a keratin structure on their upper jaw (the same material as hair or fingernails) that allows them to strain food, like krill, from great amounts of water. The Blue Whale is a baleen whale and the largest animal to ever evolve on earth. It can grow over 100 feet and over 100 tons. Some large whales, like the sperm whales, have teeth. All members of the dolphin family have teeth because they have evolved to consume larger species of fish. Because dolphins live on a food source higher up the food pyramid their meat is much more toxic.

Blue Whales and Fin Whales rely on reciprocal altruism to survive. That means that each individual looks out for the good of the group for survival. A whale's principal source of protein in the Antarctic is krill. Huge blooms of the shrimp-like animal occur at different regions of the Antarctic every year. The Fins and Blues, normally much more solitary whales, will fan out and search for the blooms. Once found, they will use their loud voices to alert the others of the discovered food source. In deep ocean channels, a Blue Whale can communicate with whales literally around the world. A Blue Whale is the loudest animal on earth, making sounds from 155-188 decibels. Fin Whales can alert others from hundreds of miles away and that way they can save each other from starvation or extinction.

Pollutants like PCB's, mercury, cadmium and lead are being dumped into the environment at extraordinary rates. A United Nations study in 2003 states that through the burning of fossil fuels, like coal and cement plants, mercury is rising in the environment at the rate of 1.5 – 3% per year, or about 3-5 times since the industrial age. There is a new coal plant slated to open in China at the rate of one a week for the next 20 years. 20 of the most polluted cities in the world are now in China, but dirty energy is now a global problem.

Mercury is the most toxic non-radioactive element in the world and it is released when coal is burned. There is no such thing as clean coal. Mercury falls to the ground and is distributed to streams, rivers, lakes and oceans where it is consumed by bacteria and becomes methyl-mercury, an organic form that is then easily absorbed by plankton and zooplankton. Mercury is an immortal element; there is no way to get rid of it once it is released in the environment. Once heavy metals and POP's (persistent organic pollutants like PCB's or pesticides) are digested they are very difficult to get rid of and they bio-accumulate in all organisms. As a general rule, every step up on the food chain these toxins are found, they are magnified about 10 times. The result is that at the top of the food chain, apex ocean predators such as dolphins and swordfish have about a million times more pollutants in them than the water surrounding them. When you consume a pound of swordfish you are consuming the equivalent of a million pounds of floating plankton absorbing toxins. Mercury has a half-life in the human body of about 70-90 days but while it is in the human brain it is destroying neurons vital for sensory perception, memory and motor skills. Advanced stages of mercury poisoning in humans look remarkably similar to mental retardation, cerebral palsy or dementia in adults.

Some towns around Minamata had populations where 30% of the children were thought to have either cerebral palsy or mental retardation. The real culprit was found to be mercury poisoning from a nearby plastics plant that was dumping mercury waste into the water system. The Japanese government conspired with the company Chisso to cover-up the source for nearly 12 years.

Much of the dolphin meat sold around Japan is actually mislabeled or sold as counterfeit whale meat from larger a whale, which sells for far more money than dolphin meat. Hundreds of samples of dolphin meat tested from around Japan have all been shown to be toxic and far exceeds their own ministry of health recommendations. Some internal organ meat for sale at the Okura markets near Taiji was analyzed to have 5000 times more mercury than the health advisory of 0.4 ppm. The oceans around industrialized countries such as China, Japan and the United States is some of the most polluted in the world and the dolphins residing in those waters are some of the most toxic in the world. For instance, if fish has more than 2 ppm (parts per million) of PCB's, the EPA requires that it not be fit for human consumption. Bottlenose dolphins off the East Coast of the United States can have up to 6800 ppm and if one washed up on the shores it would be eligible for clean-up as a super-fund site.

Besides counterfeit "whale" meat from dolphins, DNA scientist Scott Baker also found samples of illegally caught Fin Whales and other endangered whales from a large sample test of over the counter sales of whale meat from all around Japan. One fear was that meat from "Scientific Whaling" might be used as a cover for an illegal whaling operation. One particular grievous sample he analyzed was from female North Pacific Right Whales of which fewer than 40 are known to exist.

Studies have shown that dolphins too are affected by mercury poisoning. Many dolphins washed ashore have been shown to have etched out grey matter from mercury poisoning.

Humpback whales have the longest song in the animal kingdom - as long as 30 minutes and they can continuously loop them for hours at a time. Roger Payne describes their haunting ethereal voices as "A River of Sound." It is only the males of the humpback species that sing and it may be to ultimately attract females, but the only known listeners are other males.

Dolphins and whales have a long gestation period – about 11 months and they can nurture their young for years. They are not prolific breeders. The Southern Atlantic Blue Whale has yet to recover from the devastation wrought on that species by rampant over-fishing. Out of perhaps 311,000 Antarctic Blue Whales about 2280 are left, or about 5%. Despite a 20-year moratorium on whaling, they have yet to come back in any significant numbers. In the 1964-65 killing season, 5 catcher fleets of Japanese whalers could not find a single Blue Whale. As a result, the Japanese whalers rented out whaling base stations from Chile, the winter home of Antarctic Blues, and wiped out every one they could find. Chile has recently declared all of their territory waters a whale sanctuary.

A dolphin lives about 45-50 years in the wild, but over half die during their first two years in captivity due to stress, disease and pollution in their tanks.

Evolved countries, such as Chile, prohibit the capture or confinement of cetaceans. Some countries, like Italy and Brazil, have banned interactive programs involving physical contact and public feeding. Increasingly, other countries are joining in, like the UK and Australia, and are phasing out captive dolphinarium displays. There are more than 200 captive dolphin exhibits in more than 60 countries today.

**Is it okay to watch dolphin shows created with dolphins born in captivity? It is the same question slave owners asked about children born into slavery.**

## ABOUT THE FILM MAKERS

### **Louie Psihoyos**

Director

Louie Psihoyos (rhymes with Sequoias) has been widely regarded as one of the top photographers in the world. He was hired directly out of college to shoot for *National Geographic* and created images for the yellow-bordered magazine for 18 years. His ability to bring humanity and wit to complicated science stories carries over to his filmmaking. An ardent diver and dive photographer, he feels compelled to show the world the decline of our planet's crucial resource, water.

He has been on contract for *Fortune Magazine* and shot hundreds of covers for other magazines including *Smithsonian*, *Discover*, *GEO*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *New York Magazine*, *Sports Illustrated* and *Rock and Ice*. His work has also been seen on the Discovery Channel, National Geographic Television and the History Channel. Museums and private collectors around the world have sought Psihoyos' photography.

With Jim Clark, he created The Oceanic Preservation Society (OPS), in 2005. The non-profit organization provides an exclusive lens for the public and media to observe the beauty as well as the destruction of the oceans, while motivating change.

### **Fisher Stevens**

Producer

Fisher Stevens is an actor, director and a producer. He has appeared in over 40 stage productions including the Tony award winning *Torch Song Trilogy*, *Brighton Beach Memoirs* and *Carousel*.

He has appeared in over 50 Motion Pictures and Television programs. Films include: *The Flamingo Kid*, *Short Circuit*, *The Marrying Man*, *Hackers*, *Reversal of Fortune*, *Awake* and the upcoming *Gringos in Rio*. On television he was a regular on CBS's *Early Edition* and *Key West*, and also appeared on *Friends*, *Frasier* and *Law and Order*; he recently produced and starred in the upcoming pilot for NBC *The Grean Teem*.

Fisher co-founded Naked Angels Theater in New York City, where he served as director, producer, or performer on over 30 productions. The company is still producing plays after 20 years.

In 1996, along with John Penotti, Fisher founded GreeneStreet Films where he directed *Just a Kiss* with Marisa Tomei, Kyra Sedgwick and Taye Diggs. He produced or executive-produced over 15 films including 5-time Academy Award nominated *In The Bedroom*, *Swimfan*, *Uptown Girls*, *A Prairie Home Companion*, the upcoming *Tenderness* with Russell Crowe and the critically acclaimed documentary *Once in a Lifetime*.

Last year he produced and co-directed, along with Dan Klores, the Independent Spirit Award winner for best documentary *Crazy Love*. He is currently finishing the documentary *The Cove* which is in competition at this years Sundance film festival.

**Paula DuPré Pesmen**

Producer

Paula DuPré Pesmen has worked for more than 16 years as an Associate Producer for filmmaker Chris Columbus and 1492 Pictures. During that time, she was a part of many successful feature film projects. In 2005, Paula took a sabbatical from her film career to found a non-profit, There With Care, which supports families with critically ill children. During her time as the Associate Producer on the first three Harry Potter Films, she was inspired by over 65 families of critically ill children through a program she started with director Chris Columbus welcoming them to the Potter sets for their wish.

During her sabbatical, Paula also began working as a producer with Oceanic Preservation Society in her hometown of Boulder with director Louie Psihoyos to bring his vision to the screen through his moving and beautiful film project.

Paula's film credits include: *Rent*, *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*, *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, *Monkeybone*, *Bicentennial Man*, *Stepmom*, *Jingle All The Way*, *Nine Months*, *Mrs. Doubtfire*, *Home Alone 2: Lost in New York*.

**Olivia Ahnemann**

Co-Producer

Olivia Ahnemann has been a documentary film and television producer for more than 11 years. Her television credits include programs for PBS, National Geographic, Discovery, The Outdoor Life Network, and Travel Channel. Olivia has been part of several independent films including Nama Productions' *Enlighten Up!* which recently premiered at the 2008 Maui Film Festival, *Behind the Scenes of Warren Miller's Higher Ground* for Warren Miller Entertainment, and several others. Currently she is producing a feature length documentary for the Oceanic Preservation Society, which is due to premiere in January 2009.

**Mark Monroe**

Writer

Mark Monroe wrote the critically-acclaimed Miramax/ESPN documentary "Once in a Lifetime: The Extraordinary Story of the New York Cosmos." Directed & edited by Paul Crowder (editor of "Dogtown & Z-Boys" and "Riding Giants"), the film was released worldwide in theaters July 2006 and garnered Mark a W.G.A. nomination for "Best Documentary Script", January 2007. Mark also wrote "Amazing Journey: The Story of the Who", produced by Spitfire Pictures and VH1 Films. This documentary premiered at the 2007 Toronto Film Festival and is distributed worldwide by Universal Pictures. Currently, Mark is directing the feature documentary "Morning Light". Produced by Roy Disney, the doc depicts one of the youngest teams to ever attempt the arduous TransPac sailing race from Los Angeles to Hawaii. "Morning Light" will be released theatrically by The Walt Disney Company October 17th, 2008.

Mark's first original narrative screenplay, "The Fourth Day of Christmas", was chosen as a finalist at the Austin Film Festival and his short film, "Mutzie's Wedding", which he produced, directed and edited, won the Audience Award for Best Documentary Short at the Austin Film Festival.

Mark started out as a journalist writing the nightly news for CNN. He's produced more than 50 hours of documentary-style television, including programs for Discovery, The Learning Channel, Fox Sports Net, Lifetime & The Outdoor Life Network.

## **Geoffrey Richman**

Editor

Geoffrey Richman is the award-winning editor of *Murderball* and *Sicko*, the 2006 and 2008 Academy Award nominees for Best Feature Documentary. For his work on *Murderball*, Geoffrey won the first-ever Special Jury Prize for Editing at the Sundance Film Festival, where the film also won the Audience Award for Best Documentary. The following year, Geoffrey returned to Sundance with a film he edited, *God Grew Tired of Us*, which won both the Grand Jury Prize and the Audience Award. Other credits include *The Order of Myths*, *Peter and Vandy*, *If I Didn't Care*, *21 Up America*, and documentary and reality programming for a variety of networks including Showtime, Discovery Channel, TLC, Oxygen, The Food Network, and PBS.

## **J. Ralph**

Composer

J. Ralph has no formal training and does not read or write a single note of music. Drawing no distinction between art and commerce he relies solely on intuition and experimentation to create his music. A self-taught composer, recording artist and producer from New York City, his professional career began at 22 with the signing to the prestigious Lava/Atlantic Records by label president Jason Flom. In what was one of the biggest record deals ever granted to a new artist. J. Ralph's first album *MUSIC TO MAUZER BY* took over a year to record and was released February 23rd 1999. A musical Rorschach test, it was sonic blender of rock, hip-hop, mariachi, electronic, blue eyed soul, funk, and classical. Notable music critic Charles M. Young considered the album "truly an important debut."

Weeks after the release, amidst critical acclaim and MTV billing him the next big thing in pop music, J. Ralph disappeared into a self-imposed exile. He took refuge in an abandoned vaudeville theater in lower Manhattan, where he constructed a sonic laboratory and carried out a full-scale excavation of what he calls "the orchestra's universal language." Five years later he emerged with, *the Illusionary Movement's of Geraldine and Nazu*; an orchestral memoir recorded with a 75-piece orchestra, featuring players from the New York and Czech Philharmonics. Master film composer Carter Burwell conducted and arranged the first two chapters *Untitled 17* and *Where the Day Takes You*. Released in an unprecedented artist direct deal with Barnes and Noble, the store sold every single copy.

J. Ralph is the founder of the award winning music production company and scoring collective, The Rumor Mill. Intent on conquering corporate America 30 seconds at a time, they create scores, songs and musical identities for films, artists, and brands. The Rumor Mill is considered by the advertising industry an authority on tastemaker music and counts most of the fortune 500 companies as their clients. Internationally recognized, they have won every top honor and award. Their music has been featured in the biggest televisions advertising events in the world including The Olympics, The Academy Awards, The Grammys, The Emmys and The Super Bowl.

Mr. Ralph believes the orchestra is the ultimate medium boundless in philosophy and universal in scope. His most recent film scoring credits are the award winning Philippe Petit Documentary *Man On Wire* and *The Cove*. He is the only composer ever to win two consecutive A.I.C.P. awards and his scores are included in the Museum of Modern Art's Permanent collection of film and video in New York City.

## **ABOUT THE TEAM**

### **Richard O'Barry**

*Marine Mammal Specialist, Earth Island Institute*

Richard O'Barry has worked both sides of the dolphin street, the first 10 years with the dolphin captivity industry, the past 38 against it.

Working back in the 1960s for Miami Seaquarium, O'Barry captured and trained dolphins, including the five dolphins who played the role of Flipper in the popular American TV-series of the same name. When Kathy, the dolphin who played Flipper most of the time, died in his arms, O'Barry realized that capturing dolphins and training them to perform silly tricks is simply wrong.

From that moment on, O'Barry knew what he must do with his life. On the first Earth Day, 1970, he founded the Dolphin Project, dedicated to freeing captive dolphins who were viable candidates and educating people throughout the world to the plight of dolphins in captivity. He launched a searing campaign against the multi-billion dollar dolphin captivity industry, telling the public what was really going on at dolphin shows and urging people not to buy tickets to see dolphins play the fool.

O'Barry has rescued and released more than 25 captive dolphins in Haiti, Colombia, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Brazil, the Bahamas Islands and the United States. His more than 45 years of experience with dolphins and his firsthand knowledge about the methods used to capture and train them has taken him all over the world to participate in lectures and conferences about the controversial dolphin captivity issue. As he knew it would, this created a lot of hostility toward him by those who stood to profit from the continued exploitation of dolphins.

"They're in this for money. Take it away, and they'll quit doing this," O'Barry says and adds: "Dolphins are free-ranging, intelligent, and complex wild animals, and they belong in the oceans, not playing the clown in our human schemes."

To recognize his contribution, in 1991 O'Barry received the 'Environmental Achievement Award' presented by the United States Committee for the United Nations Environmental Program (US/UNEP).

His book 'Behind the Dolphin Smile' was published in 1989, a second book, 'To Free A Dolphin' was published in September 2000. Both of them are about his work and dedication.

O'Barry is a Fellow National in The Explorers Club, a multidisciplinary society that links together scientists and explorers from all over the world. Each member is an accomplished individual with at least one fascinating story to tell.

In January, 2007, O'Barry became the Marine Mammal Specialist for Earth Island Institute and Director of Save Japan Dolphins coalition: [www.SaveJapanDolphins.org](http://www.SaveJapanDolphins.org)

### **Louie Psihoyos**

*Director*

*See page 8*

### **Simon Hutchins**

*Director of Expeditions*

Simon Hutchins spent 7 years in the Canadian Air Force as an avionics technician eventually being posted from his home in Toronto to Vancouver Island. During the years spent on the Island he

developed an interest in sailing and diving. After leaving the CAF in 1994 Simon pursued a career in yachting and diving.

Born in England in 1962, he emigrated to Canada in 1967. An avid athlete, he has played ice hockey and golf as well as racing his road bike in many of the premier cycling events in British Columbia. When not on an expedition Simon still enjoys getting out on the golf course.

Qualified as a British Marine Coastguard Agency Master of Yachts, Simon is a qualified officer on the OPS flagship Athena. As an IANTD Dive Master, he also serves as Athena's dive expedition manager. He is qualified on an array of technical scuba equipment, including being a Rebreather Instructor, and member of the 2008 Canadian Freediving Team. The skills learned working on high tech aircraft systems, along with his sailing and diving qualifications create a unique set of abilities well suited to organize and maintain the expeditions. He currently lives on his 48 foot sailing yacht "Scaramouche II", an old German Frers designed racing yacht built by Palmer Johnson in 1977.

### **Mandy-Rae Cruickshank**

*FreeDiver*

Mandy is a world renowned female athlete combining grit and grins. She holds numerous world records for freediving, holding her breath underwater for extended periods of time and diving to great depths. Her mermaid-like skills have brought her media much attention - she has been featured on the Discovery Channel, Good Morning America, Explore Magazine, Men's Health and Fitness, Outside Magazine among others. She was prominent during David Blaine's 2-hour ABC special, *Drowned Alive*, in May of 2006, when she rescued the endurance artist from his highly visible underwater stunt. She also appeared in *The Mermaid Chair* with Kim Basinger on The Lifetime Channel. She competes and trains others in freediving year round.

For OPS, she has served as a graceful underwater reminder of human presence in the sea, slipping effortlessly through reefs and sea canyons with ease. Her iconic open-arm gesture of receiving that she offered to the massive whales serves as visual reminder of her beauty and skill.

### **Kirk Krack**

*FreeDiver*

Kirk Krack is a professional freediving educator, trainer, coach and entrepreneur. He is considered one of the world's foremost authorities on the professional aspects of freediving education, instruction and safety. Along with his wife Mandy Rae, he has assisted in capturing much of OPS' underwater footage.

His ability to spend extended time alongside sealife, without the use of distracting equipment makes him an asset to the team. He has worked for OPS in the Cocos Islands, the Dominican Republic, Hawaii, The Bahamas, the Cayman Islands and Tahiti. Also, in Japan, he and his wife bravely assisted setting underwater recording devices in the infamous killing cove, eluding guards and police.

**David Rastovich**

*Freesurfer*

As a traveling free surfer David is part of an aspect of the surfing world that embraces a wholistic attitude and maintains an intimate relationship with our environment.

Traveling through a multitude of cultures and seascapes, experiencing waves with whales and dolphins has lead him to an awareness of the interconnected nature of all life, and the delicate systems that allow this network of life to exist. It is this divine play of forces that has inspired him to co-create Surfers for Cetaceans in the hope of maintaining the balance within the oceans of this planet.

His hope also is to ignite human compassion for the Cetacean Nation and spread the joy that he feels every time he shares waves with the "people of the sea."

**Scott Baker**

*DNA Scientist*

Scott Baker is Associate Director of the Marine Mammal Institute, Oregon State University, in Newport, Oregon, and adjunct Professor of Molecular Ecology and Evolution in the School of Biological Sciences at the University of Auckland, New Zealand. Scott has been involved in the study of whales and dolphins for nearly 30 years, starting as an undergraduate student at New College, in Sarasota, Florida (graduated 1977) and continuing with his PhD at the University of Hawaii (completed 1985). He has acted as a delegate to the Scientific Committee of the International Whaling Commission for New Zealand or the US since 1994, and is a member of the Cetacean Specialist Group of IUCN - the World Conservation Union. He is also a member of the Society for Marine Mammal Sciences, the Royal Society of New Zealand and, since 2007, is editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Heredity*, which just celebrated publication of its 100<sup>th</sup> volume. Scott's research includes both molecular and individual-based approaches to the basic and applied investigation of evolutionary pattern and process in whales and dolphins, particularly their abundance, population structure, genetic diversity and systematic relationships. His interest in the conservation of whales and dolphins lead to the first molecular surveys of 'whalemeat' markets in Japan in 1993. One of Scott's recent initiatives has been to establish a web-based program for molecular identification of whales, dolphins and porpoises, [www.dna-surveillance.auckland.ac.nz](http://www.dna-surveillance.auckland.ac.nz). As a result of developing a comprehensive collection of DNA samples, he helped discover a new species of beaked whales, *Mesoplodon perrini*. Scott's current research includes: demographic and genetic impacts of whaling; molecular taxonomy and applied bioinformatics for species discovery and wildlife forensics; molecular monitoring of meat from protected whales sold in commercial markets of Japan and Korea; and population structure and genetic diversity of whales, dolphins, sea lions and fur seals, including the New Zealand endemic Hector's and Maui's dolphins and New Zealand sea lion.

Website for the Marine Mammal Institute, Hatfield Marine Science Center,  
[www.oregonstate.edu/groups/marinemammal](http://www.oregonstate.edu/groups/marinemammal)

**Brooke Aitken**

*Cinematographer*

Aitken is a second generation director of photography. His major influence has been his father, Len, who shot multiple documentaries, including several Emmy winners. Brooke attended CU Film School and received a BFA in film production. He shoots mainly extreme sports, documentaries, music videos, and feature films. His clients include Nike, Jordan brand, Toyota, Warren miller films, National Geographic, and The Discovery Channel. He was a professional skier and kayaker. Aitken has shot in the jungles of Central America, the cliffs of Japan, and mountain tops in Alaska. His photography has had him hanging from helicopters, dangling off waterfalls...Classic adrenalin junkie behavior.

**Charles Hambleton***Clandestine Operations*

Charles was born in Miami, Florida. His father worked for Pan American Airlines, so he grew up all over the world. He studied English at Roanoke College in Virginia and Environmental Microbiology at University of Vermont. He moved to Boulder, Colorado to play music and recorded and toured extensively. Leaving the music business in 1991, he moved to London, and then to Antigua, West Indies where he still resides. Charles has worked as a dive master, commercial diver, and sailor and with treasure hunter Scott Mitchen. Together they have discovered numerous wrecks around the Caribbean and began to salvage old growth hardwood from the Great Lakes. He is a re-breather diver, has a private pilots license, and a 200 ton Yacht Master ticket. Back in Antigua, he worked on many commercials & local film productions, and also with the Marine Department on location for the "Pirates of the Caribbean" movies. Charles also met Louie Psihoyos in Antigua, and for more than 10 years he has worked with Louie on many photography assignments. Now, with OPS, they continue work on their upcoming movie. In rare spare time he races his wooden sloop "Summer Cloud" throughout the Caribbean.

**Joseph Chisholm***Unit Production Manager*

As the overseer of all facets of production, Joe Chisholm's contribution to the OPS team is varied, yet critical. He looks after the gear and the guys. His 10-year stint overseeing large-scale events in the music and festival industry has made him indispensable in the studio, and on location. Whether it's managing a mountain of gear's transport, or securing a cameraman to a tree, he silently gives blood, sweat and tears, and then some. He is one of the men behind the magic who makes sense of the chaos. His many years of sailing in the Caribbean have established a love and respect for the oceans and the importance of their preservation. He is a certified open water and rebreather diver and EMT. He is an alumnus of the University of Colorado at Boulder, where he received a BA in philosophy and Native American religious studies.

**Greg "Moondog" Mooney***Marine Technician*

Greg brings a wealth of technical diving expertise to the Oceanic Preservation Society. Qualified as a NAUI scuba instructor, he is also an Advanced Nitrox Instructor, Nitrox Instructor Trainer, Hyperbaric Chamber Instructor, Gas Blending Instructor and Full Trimix Certified Diver. He has spent 16 years in the dive industry, including 12 years as a high pressure life support system designer and mixed gas blending technician. His roles include purchasing, organizing and maintaining the Society's dive gear and getting the film crews in and out of the water safely. Greg also acts as safety diver during expeditions.

During some of the more adventurous expeditions, Greg's advanced knowledge of diving is crucial in planning. A keen underwater videographer, 'Moondog' as he is commonly known, is always helpful in exploring new camera techniques with the director and helping the cameramen master the diving techniques necessary to create more interesting footage.

Born in Newport Beach, California, into a yachting family, Greg lived in California and throughout Europe in his youth. Greg's initial interest in diving was sparked by free diving sessions in Greece. Moving to Fort Lauderdale in 1975, Greg has grown up around the largest yachting community in the United States and is an addition to the Athena crew when on expedition.

When not on an expedition, Greg runs a yacht dive equipment outfitting and support company in Fort Lauderdale, Florida called Moondog Dive Outfitters.

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## **MATERIALS**

**All materials including key art and production stills can be found on our press site:**

[www.madman.com.au/pressarea](http://www.madman.com.au/pressarea)

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