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Film Trailer edited by co-director Clement Guerra

LOGLINE

Four Indigenous environmental leaders embark on an extraordinary trans-continental adventure from the Canadian plains to deep into the heart of the Amazonian jungle to unite the peoples of North and South America and deepen the meaning of “Climate Justice”. The Condor & The Eagle documentary offers a glimpse into a developing spiritual renaissance as the film four protagonists learn from each other’s long legacy of resistance to colonialism and its extractive economy. Their path through the jungle takes them on an unexpectedly challenging and liberating journey, which will forever change their attachment to the Earth and one another.

THE PROPHECY

The Eagle And The Condor is an ancient prophecy, shared by many Indigenous people throughout the Americas. It says that when the Eagle of North America and the Condor of South America unite; the spirit of peace will awaken on Earth. Indigenous knowledge keepers will come together with world leaders to define a path of healing for all humans and the planet – Mother Earth.

Oscar-winning Producer / Editor Douglas Blush

(Mr. Soul, Icarus, 20 Feet From Stardom, The Hunting Ground, The Invisible War, etc.) says:

"This documentary takes the struggle for Climate Justice beyond the standard borders of separate nations and shows a new, larger movement rising up across many Indigenous peoples, using thrilling cinematography, deeply personal stories and the urgency of tomorrow’s headlines. The Condor & The Eagle is both a profound work of climate journalism and an exhilarating, emotional adventure film".



Two of our protagonists leading the Four Hundred Thousand People's Climate March in NY

SYNOPSIS

Energy companies are actively planning to triple Canadian tar sands (world's largest industrial project) production in the coming years, which would mean "game over" for climate change. Such an increase in production is possible if the planned pipelines are actually built and permitted in the US and Canada. Our four protagonists live alongside the pipeline routes. *The Condor & The Eagle* brings to light the major role played by Indigenous women in the build-up of the Environmental Justice Movement.

Our film documents the stories of four well-known Native environmental spokespeople who are at the forefront of a perspective shift in the identity of their people, from forgotten voices to powerful and influential leaders. They have struggled with feelings of isolation their entire lives and are now discovering the power of their shared voices to bring change to the entire world. With the continuous expansion of pipeline projects throughout the Americas these Indigenous women and men represent the last remaining landholders who refuse to sacrifice their territories to transnational oil companies. Their unification in New York first and later in Paris are among many similar and burgeoning initiatives, mostly led by Indigenous women, that have inspired people around the world to rise for the protection of the earth and give life to the climate justice movement.

Melina Laboucan-Massimo and Bryan Parras's lands were devastated by the oil industry and it has remained an acceptable secret, with no coverage from the media, and limited support from their governments. Even as her people were dying in the Alberta tar sands, Melina's sister was recently murdered: violence against the Earth, begets violence against women. This tragic event set into motion her quest for justice, which will lead her half way across the globe. Bryan has always lived in the energy capital of the world, Houston. He grew up uprooted from his Indigenous origins until the day he met with other Indigenous people who vowed to bring back respect for the land and ancient cultures. So begins his journey to rediscover his true self, the meaning of being Indigenous.

Filmed in the verdant jungles of the Amazon (Ecuador and Peru), the brightly colored cultures of the Pan American First Nations communities (Vancouver, Alberta) and the United States Indian tribes (Oklahoma), viewers glimpse extraordinary beauty in the places, faces and regalia of traditional people. The Indigenous heartfelt pursuit for self-discovery, self-reclamation, and a way of life, is chronicled as they build alliances around the world (in Peru, Ecuador, Paris, Washington and New York) because to them a crime against Mother Earth is a crime against humanity.

We follow our protagonists as they develop a resistance strategy that matches the level of their opponents – taking their effort to South America, Europe and beyond. Their task is to make local battles an International concern and finally expose criminal corporations responsible for serious crimes. The direct relation between man and nature presents itself as a way out of our colonial imprint and begin the journey towards rediscovering our natural roots. Our film promotes an intercultural dialogue by showing how non-Indigenous and Indigenous people come together.

As recently as last month, the federal government climate report claimed that Canada is warming twice as fast as the rest of the world. As UN climate scientists predict unprecedented global catastrophe, "The Condor & The Eagle" features Indigenous women leaders deploying unparalleled global response. Facing this overwhelming current political climate, a great many people are looking for answers that are adapted to today's urgency. We managed to build a storyline based on the emotional journey of "normal" people striving towards achieving personal goals. Our program leaves most of the political aside by unravelling a tale of inner strength and inspiring courage.

Most of our work focuses on America energy hotspots that are the tar sands in Alberta and Houston industries. As Fossil Fuel developments get out of control (largest-ever open pit tar sands mine is quietly making its way through a government review – dramatic impacts of Hurricane Harvey on Houston communities), some of the most bio diverse places in South America are being sold to oil companies (Sarayaku, Sapara, Yasuni, Rio Tigre, etc.). The urgency is real and our film will make sure that these large- scale destructive projects are made public and lift up the voices of resistance from North and South America.

Academy Award Nominee Mark Ruffalo says:

"I am very impressed with this inspiring Indigenous alliance initiative. The Condor & The Eagle is an important Documentary witnessing how Indigenous people are organizing their communities around Mother wisdom".



Tzeporah Berman, former co-director of Greenpeace International says:

"Their project is not just a film. It is connecting movements, supporting Indigenous Women leaders and building amazing strategic partnerships. I think it has tremendous International communications possibilities".



The two co-Directors Sophie (Germany) and Clément (France) after the signing of the "Indigenous Women Treaty": first-ever treaty signed between Indigenous women from the global North and the Global South - calling on women from the world to join in their effort to restore the balance of the natural world.

Andre Singer (London) President of The Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland & CEO of Spring Films Ltd, says:

“As both a filmmaker and an anthropologist, this appeals to me on every level and particularly because instead of being descriptive in nature, it gives Indigenous people a voice and exposes the problems they face through their eyes. I have recently been directly involved in several feature documentaries looking at the plight of Indigenous people and we were fortunate enough to garner Oscar nominations, Peabody, RTS, Emmy and Focal Awards and others as an indication that there is an appetite and concern for the issues that *The Condor & the Eagle* is addressing”.

KEY CREATIVE PERSONNEL

EMMA MORRIS (New York) – Editor

Emma Morris is an EMMY Award winning producer/director/editor whose work includes the feature documentary *Something Within Me*, winner of the Audience Award, Film Makers Trophy and a Special Grand Jury Award at the Sundance Film Festival. Her awards include: Sundance Audience Award, Sundance Filmmakers Trophy, Special Sundance Jury Award, News and Documentary EMMY Award, Christopher Award, Cine Golden Eagle, Golden Apple Award and the IDA Distinguished Documentary Achievement Award. Her films were featured on HBO, PBS, BBC, Discovery Channel, etc.

DOUGLAS BLUSH (Los Angeles) – Editing Advisor

Doug Blush is an award-winning director, producer, editor, writer and cinematographer whose work includes over 100 feature and television projects, and is a member of the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences (AMPAS) as well as the American Cinema Editors (ACE). His recent credits include, as consulting editor and producer, the 2018 Academy Award winning *ICARUS* as well as the 2013 Oscar-winning “20 Feet From Stardom”, for which he also received the ACE Eddie Award for Best Documentary Editing and the recent HBO documentary “The Music Of Strangers: Yo Yo Ma And The Silk Road Ensemble”, both from director Morgan Neville. He was Co-Editor and Associate Producer of Kirby Dick’s “The Hunting Ground” in 2014 and the Oscar nominated and Emmy winning “The Invisible War” in 2012. Recent work as consulting or supervising editor include the Sundance documentaries “Jim: The James Foley Story”, “The Mars Generation”, “Chasing Choral”, “On Her Shoulders”, “Dark Money”, “King In The Wilderness”, and earlier editorial and producing work includes the popular documentaries “Wordplay”, “Freakonomics”, “Outrage”, “These Amazing Shadows”, and “Superheroes”.

ALEXANDRA JOHNES – (Los Angeles) – Executive Producer

Alexandra leads the production company Special Projects. She is known for films including *The Square*, *Gonzo: The Life and Work of Dr. Hunter S. Thompson*, and *Doubletime*. She has worked as a Producer with various directors, including Alex Gibney, Eugene Jarecki and Jehane Noujaim. In 2013, Johnes received a Primetime Emmy Award for producing *Mea Maxima Culpa: Silence in the House of God*.

JANET WALLACE MACGUILLIVRAY (New York) – Co-Producer / Impact Producer

Janet is an environmental attorney and social change activist. She founded and directs The Seeding Sovereignty Project birthed at Standing Rock to amplify the role of indigenous knowledge for environmental justice. Janet is a former whistle blower, and has worked in legal and leadership positions at EPA and national and international NGO’s on the interconnected issues of water rights, land and food sovereignty, global trade, climate refugees, environmental health, and the rights of nature. Janet, of Muscogee (Creek) heritage, is a mother who dedicates her life work to the future of all children.

MARC WEISS (New York) – Editing Advisor

Marc N. Weiss is best known as the creator and first Executive Producer of *P.O.V.*, the award-winning documentary series now preparing for its 25th season on PBS. He has been a leader in the independent film and media movement for 40 years, as a filmmaker, a journalist, an organizer, and as an innovator in the use of the Internet to engage people on social issues, first with *P.O.V. Interactive* in the mid-90's and then with *Web Lab*, beginning in 1997. In 2011, Marc produced "When Strangers Click" with Robert Kenner and "Gun Fight" with Barbara Kopple, both for HBO.

ANDRE SINGER (London) –Editing Advisor

Andre is currently CEO of Spring Films Ltd of London and is President of The Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland. Since 1992, Singer has worked with Herzog as a producer or executive producer on thirteen productions, including Into the Abyss (2011). He and Lucki Stipetic were producers for Herzog's documentary, Into the Inferno (2016), about mankind's relationship with volcanoes. Singer was also an Executive Producer on the multi-award winning documentaries, The Act of Killing (2012) and "The Look of Silence" (2014), by Joshua Oppenheimer. André was awarded (Night Will Fall - 2014), two Focal Awards, a Peabody Award, and Best Documentary at the Moscow Jewish Film Festival in 2015; it won the Royal Television Society Award for Historical Documentary and the Emmy for Outstanding Historical Film (Long-form) in 2016. He was on the Film and Television Committee of BAFTA, The British Academy of Film and Television Arts, between 2010 and 2013.

SOPHIE GUERRA (Germany) – Co-Director & Co-Producer

For the past 10 years, Sophie has been concentrating herself on researching the health impacts of environmental pollution. After completing her Master's Degree in Pharmacology sciences in 2012, she decided to live her passion for films, seen as a powerful strategic way to reach out to a larger audience.

CLEMENT GUERRA (France) – Co-Director / Cinematography

Clément has been working as an International Marketing Consultant Manager in London as well as a professional photographer. He has been focusing on creating his own independent production company, promoting a creative approach for documentary films seen as an innovative social change tool. He is "Survival Media Agency" Europe director, producing high quality visual media for climate organizations and social movements.