RIVER OF GOLD
21st ANNUAL
ARPA INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL
November 2 - 4, 2018
EGYPTIAN THEATRE
HOLLYWOOD
WINNER
BEST DOCUMENTARY FILM
AWARD
21st ANNUAL
ARPA INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL
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EGYPTIAN THEATRE
HOLLYWOOD
NOMINEE
BEST DOCUMENTARY FILM
21st ANNUAL
ARPA INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL
November 2 - 4, 2018
EGYPTIAN THEATRE
HOLLYWOOD
OFFICIAL SELECTION
"A riveting story of a golden bullet aimed at the heart of the Amazon and the heroic efforts for a much better outcome."
Thomas E. Lovejoy, Conservation Biologist
Senior Fellow at the United Nations Foundation
AN AMAZON AID FOUNDATION PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH ÜBER CONTENT NARRATORS HERBIE HANCOCK SISSY SPACEK
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS SARAH DUPONT JAMES CAVELLO MARGARITE ALMEIDA PHYLLIS KOENIG PRESTON LEE JON FINE JON GOLDEN DONOVAN WEBSTER
MUSIC ANTHONY MARINELLI DIRECTORS OF PHOTOGRAPHY REUBEN AARONSON HERVÉ COHEN EDITORS ESTEBAN ARGÜELLO MATTHEW CELIA JON GOLDEN
JON FINE HERVÉ COHEN PHOTOS BY RON HAVIV PRODUCED BY JAMES CAVELLO PRODUCED AND CO-DIRECTED BY SARAH DUPONT REUBEN AARONSON
ARTWORK BY BRYAN EL CASTILLO COPYRIGHT 2018, AMAZON AID FOUNDATION
AMAZON AID FOUNDATION

NARRATED BY ACADEMY AWARD WINNERS SISSY SPACEK AND HERBIE HANCOCK, RIVER OF GOLD IS THE DISTURBING ACCOUNT OF A CLANDESTINE JOURNEY BEARING WITNESS TO THE APOCALYPTIC DESTRUCTION OF THE RAINFOREST IN THE PURSUIT OF ILLEGALLY MINED GOLD.

War journalists Ron Haviv and Donovan Webster travel along Peru's Madre de Dios River to reveal the savage unraveling of pristine rainforest. Peruvian environmental activist and biologist, Enrique Ortiz, guides the team, pointing out the heedless exploitation of the land. Miners rush to the Amazon to scrape together enough money to start a business or to feed their family while disregarding the catastrophic consequences to their health and homeland.

Vulnerable trees, over one thousand years old, and countless species of plants, animals, and insects, both known to science and yet to be discovered, fall victim to the annihilation. Environmental degradation and human degradation are irrevocably intertwined as illegal gold mining is directly tied to corruption, human trafficking, narcotics, and organized crime.

An animated agouti springs to life to tell the story of its ecosystem, as it represents the only species capable of cracking open the Brazil nut and thereby repopulating this essential apex forest tree.

The valuable Amazon rainforest is not only being stripped of life, but also forever poisoned with mercury, a by product of illegal mining practices. Flash forward four years to a massive intervention by the Peruvian government. What will be the fate of this critical region as these extraordinarily beautiful forests are turned into a hellish wasteland?

RIVER OF GOLD reaffirms the right of the rainforest to exist as a repository of priceless biodiversity and not as the toxic remains of man's greed for gold.

RIVER OF GOLD

IN THE PERUVIAN MADRE DE DIOS AREA APPROXIMATELY 90% OF THE GOLD IS MINED ILLEGALLY.

MINERS USE MERCURY TO SEPARATE THE GOLD. EXCESS MERCURY IS BURNED AWAY RELEASING TOXIC FUMES INTO THE AIR. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT 35 TONS OF TOXIC MERCURY ARE RELEASED INTO THE ECOSYSTEM EVERY YEAR.

MERCURY CONTAMINATION CAUSES SEVERE DISORDERS OF THE BRAIN AND CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM AND CAN ALSO POISON THE LUNGS, KIDNEYS, AND LIVER.

THE MADRE DE DIOS AREA IS SITUATED IN THE HEADWATERS OF THE AMAZON, ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT AND BIODIVERSE PLACES IN THE WORLD. THIS AREA IS CURRENTLY BEING DESTROYED BY MINERS, WHO ARE DRIVEN TO THIS AREA BY POVERTY IN HOPES OF A BETTER LIFE.

River of Gold Official Trailer

RIVER OF GOLD • PRODUCTION NOTES

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By Sarah duPont, Co-Director/Producer

In the summer of 1999, I journeyed to the Peruvian Amazon, a remote and pristine area, the largest piece of contiguous rainforest left on the planet. There we meandered along undulating brown rivers by boat, the best way to traverse this dense and roadless place. I was traveling with an intrepid group of scientists. Our destination was the research station we had built to study and protect this critical ecosystem. I came to learn firsthand how the Amazon is one of the most important places for the stability of our environment; not only is the Amazon an untapped plethora of important species, it also houses countless trees that keep the world's weather patterns steady.

Since that time, I have been fortunate to travel back to the jungles of the Amazon. But it has become a different place. Roads have been built and people have arrived. It has become a new wild west, a place without law. People driven by poverty and the desire for a better life have come, exploiting the sacred ground. Almost 10 years after my first trip to the once pristine Amazon, I could no longer travel the rivers without witnessing mass ecological destruction. In desperation, I gathered a team of some of the best scientists, environmentalists, and artists to document this tragedy. I wanted to create a film that is both beautiful and informative; one that I hope will affect the audience so that they too can step forward to protect the Amazon and ensure that the future climate of the world is as we know it today.

But how was I to deliver this message? How could I get people to pay attention in this chaotic time? For me, I knew that it felt like war. A war against the environment. Ecocide. Then a thought was born. Why not make a documentary that follows journalists who specialize in war reportage, filming them as they witnessed this broad, far reaching, and criminal eradication of the Amazon? This film would capture this war against nature.

RIVER OF GOLD was indeed a very difficult and dangerous film to make. As the producer I was at times very concerned for the safety of the team. We were documenting places where outsiders are never allowed. The stakes were high and we knew that filming illegal mines would not be welcomed. Moments of the shoot were thick with tension; we were skirting danger, not knowing if we would be able to complete our mission successfully and safely. But thanks to our courageous and talented crew, we came home with 26 hours of horrible, poignant, yet beautiful imagery for the world to see. We can now all witness young men standing in barrels laden with mercury, child prostitution and slavery, and the majestic trees once filled with the joyous songs of birds now turning into desolate and toxic soil all gone in the quest for gold.

And what is this destruction worth? Does the sparkling superfluous glitter of gold outshine all other necessary elements of life? This beautiful and intricate web of life that we have been given to nourish our bodies and souls is being destroyed. And for what?

Humans have the capacity for greatness and the ability to create solutions. I believe in grace. RIVER OF GOLD was made in the hope for a safe and healthy world.

RIVER OF GOLD • PRODUCTION NOTES

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By Reuben Aaronson, Co-Director/Producer

When you fly into the Amazon Rainforest from Peru's capital, Lima, and begin to descend from the mountains, you pass over vast and seemingly endless oceans of jungle green. And then you see it: Long gouges in the earth below, looking as if God had taken his fingernails and dragged them along the surface of the earth in some kind of angry fit, leaving behind wide canyons of nothingness.

During the whole time we were making this film, I kept asking myself is there was any real value in dedicating almost a year of my time to working on a project like this that would attempt to reveal to the world yet one more story of human greed and ignorance causing the environmental destruction that left these ugly, sad defacing marks on our planet.

Ever since I was a child and, now, for more than half my life, the price of gold has hovered at below $50 an ounce. But more recently, economic insecurities on a global level have lured people to buy the elusive shiny yellow metal as a hedge against inflation. Today the price of gold is pushing thirty times what it cost when I was growing up and the sky high prices entice migrants from Peru's poor highlands into the region where a worker can earn in a single day what a school teacher makes in a month. Not bad work if you can get it. Never mind it might kill you. And us.

While the conditions aren't the same as working in a classroom, you don't have to know how to read for this job and you don't have to pay any taxes either. When all you can think about is providing food for your family, it's no surprise that you don't stop to notice that you are destroying primary rainforest and poisoning the air and water in the process.

It takes around 250 tons of earth to get enough gold to make an average sized wedding ring. One ring for her and one for him equals five hundred tons of earth. On an average, 600 people are married every day in the United States. That's a steady appetite of 300,000 tons of primary rainforest consumed every day.

On the shoot, we witnessed gaping holes the size of football fields being created in just a week. Each hole kills thousand year old trees and hundreds of species of plants and animals who used to call that tree home. It will take at least 500 years for any of this to come back.

Meanwhile, environmentalists are observing helplessly from the sidelines with their eyes popping out of their heads at the horrific amounts of devastation taking place. And local police and federal officials, many of whom are corrupt and on the take, seem overwhelmed by the situation.

It is a complicated issue. But 100% of it is manmade. And if we created it, we can also end it.

RIVER OF GOLD • FILMMAKER BIOS

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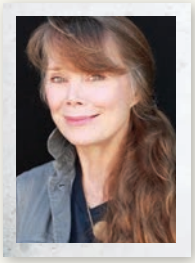

SISSY SPACEK • NARRATOR

Sissy Spacek has been one of the industry's most respected actresses for almost four decades. Her many honors include an Academy Award, five additional Oscar nominations, three Golden Globe Awards, and numerous critics awards. She first gained attention of critics and audiences with her performance in Terrence Malick's widely praised 1973 drama Badlands in which she starred opposite Martin Sheen. In 1976, Spacek earned her first Academy Award nomination and won a National Society of Film Critics Award for her chilling performance in the title role of Brian De Palma's Carrie based on the Stephen King novel. In 1980, Spacek starred as Loretta Lynn in the acclaimed biopic Coal Miner's Daughter, winning an Academy Award and Golden Globe award for her performance. In her portrayal; of the country music legend, Spacek also swept the New York Film Critics Circle. Los Angeles Film Critics, National Board of Review, and National Society of FIlm Critics Awards. Her most recent Academy Award nomination came from her portrayal of a mother grieving for her murdered son in the drama In the Bedroom. With a desire to share her extensive film career along with her personal experiences, Spacek released her memoir My Extraordinary Life. Sissy is currently starring in the Netflix original series, Bloodline.

HERBIE HANCOCK • NARRATOR

Herbie Hancock is a true icon of modern music, an internationally renowned jazz composer, pianist, keyboardist, and bandleader. He has significantly contributed to the musical history of jazz by redefining the role of jazz rhythms while embracing synthesizers and funk influences. He has won numerous awards for his compositions and performances, including an Academy Award, fourteen GRAMMY Awards, and five MTV awards, among others.

Hancock recently released the critically-acclaimed album The Imagine Project. Utilizing the universal language of music to express its central themes of peace and global responsibility, the "Imagine" project features a stellar group of musicians including Jeff Beck, Seal, pink, Dave Matthews, The Chieftains, Lionel Loueke, and Chaka Khan. The "Imagine Project" was recorded around the word and filmed for an accompanying documentary.

Herbie Hancock also maintains a thriving career outside the performing stage and recording studio. He was named by the Los Angeles Philharmonic as Creative Chair for Jazz and also serves as Insitute Chairman of the Thelonious Monk Institute for Jazz, the foremost international organization devoted to the development of jazz performance and education worldwide. In addition, he is the founder of the International Committee of Artists for Peace. In 2011 Mr Hancock became an UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador, and established the international day of Jazz. In 2013 he was bestowed the highest award as a recipient of the Kennedy Center honor.

RIVER OF GOLD • FILMMAKER BIOS

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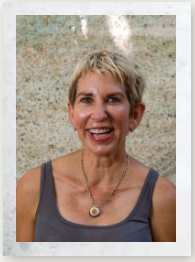

SARAH DUPONT • CO-DIRECTOR, PRODUCER

Sarah duPont is an award-winning humanitarian, educator and filmmaker and is a vocal advocate of ecological preservation. As the President and Founder of the Amazon Aid Foundation, Sarah works with Neotropical scientists to study Amazonian biodiversity with an eye toward educating the public and introducing cutting-edge conservation practices and on the ground solutions to the region. Sarah is a producer and co-director of the award winning film *River of Gold* and the short documentary *Mercury Uprising,* both films about illegal gold mining in the Amazon Rainforest. Her other film projects include producing the award-winning Kids Against Malaria music video P.S.A., a transmedia program to promote treatment and prevention for malaria in Africa and the Anthem for the Amazon music video, a video with the voices of 500 children from around the world singing to protect the Amazon. Sarah has been engaged in educational innovation for 25 years, creating projects both locally and globally. She works to build cross disciplinary curriculum that support core subjects, including middle and high school STEAM curriculum built around the documentary River of Gold. In the fall of 2010, Sarah, along with Gigi Hancock, wife of legendary jazz great, Herbie Hancock, co-founded CIAMO, an arts and music school based in Benin, Africa. Sarah has had both past and present board experience, serving on the following boards: University of Virginia Children's Medical Center, the University of Virginia Council for the Arts, the Amazon Conservation Association, the Upton Foundation, Rachel's Network, the Wake Forest University's Board of Visitors, the Berklee Global Jazz Institute, and the D.C. Environmental Film Festival. She has been the recipient of the Charlottesville Village Award, the Dorothy Corwin Spirit of Life Award, the Global Syndicate Humanitarian Award, Worldwide Children's Foundation of New York's Humanitarian Award, the Hawaii International Film Festival's Humanitarian Award, and the Pongo Award.

REUBEN AARONSON • CO-DIRECTOR, PRODUCER

Reuben Aaronson is a distinguished Producer/Director/Cameraman whose distinctive work reflects a wide variety of films in his thirty year career. He has traveled the world to shoot and direct award-winning films about the human experience and international culture. He has created or worked on films for National Geographic, Discovery, HBO, PBS and many others. From Academy Awards two Emmys, Aaronson's work is consistently recognized for its beauty and sensitivity. Aaronson became fluent in Spanish after spending two years in the Peace Corps working in the slums of Santiago, Chile. Since then he has filmed in almost every South American country including a dozen projects in Peru where RIVER OF GOLD was shot. Over the years, Reuben has developed a deep personal affection for the Peruvian people and their history. Other projects include a two-hour special about Mexico for the Discovery Channel and collaboration on the feature film The Thin Red Line nominated for an Academy Award. Reuben was also the cinematographer for The Ground Truth a feature length documentary that screened at the Sundance Festival and was short-listed for an Academy Award. He is currently working on two other documentaries in Peru, Finding Vilcabamba about the long anticipated discovery of the last capital stronghold belonging to the Inca Empire and a feature film 26 Days in Peru about the extreme left wing radical group The Shining Path. Aaronson recently established NGOfilms, an independent film company to assist organizations in creating meaningful films about social issues of cultural significance and/or ongoing crucial work by noteworthy nonprofit organizations.

JAMES CAVELLO • PRODUCER

James Cavello is an international award-winning art curator, film producer/director and owner of a leading contemporary art gallery in New York City, as well as board member for several non-profit organizations. His visionary talent in the arts is called upon for a wide range of projects including film, publishing, multi-media, art technology and collaborations with government, private and corporate enterprises. In addition, he uses his skills to assist non-profits with purposeful goals, such as creating a brand identity for the SoHo Business Improvement District in NYC and directing the annual college student exhibition at The National Arts Club. He served as Vice President on the board of Amazon Aid Foundation, as well as lead Producer with Sarah duPont in the documentary film project, RIVER OF GOLD. As the President of the Worldwide Children's Foundation of New York, he manages the organization's mission to provide life-saving or life-altering surgery to children in medical need. James Cavello has been recognized for his curatorial accomplishments with leading media coverage and received honors for his humanitarian service.

RIVER OF GOLD • FILMMAKER BIOS

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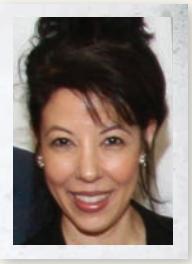
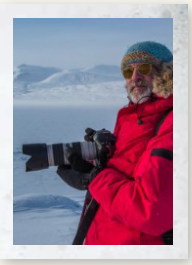


MARGARITE ALMEIDA • EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Margarite Almeida is co-owner and Vice President of Westwood Gallery in New York City since 1995. She is also a founder and director of a new contemporary art fair in Honolulu, Hawaii. She has continually served on the boards of non-profit organizations as a principal, strategic member, including Amazon Aid Foundation and Worldwide Children's Foundation of New York. Ms. Almeida's international background from Asia and South America make her an asset as a cultural liaison. Her areas of expertise in business include development, planning, international communications and directorship. Furthermore, her skills in non-profit management have made her a valuable member on several boards. Her role in the arts converged into creating site specific projects for government, private, corporate and charitable organizations. The documentary film, RIVER OF GOLD, was a passionate undertaking with several years dedicated to the management of film production, messaging and material content.

JON FINE • EXECUTIVE PRODUCER, EDITOR

Jon Fine is a filmmaker and musician. Over the years he's worked as a producer, DP, director and editor. His work as a producer includes "Still Bill" about songwriter Bill Withers, "The After Party" featuring Andre 3000, Professor Cornel West and a young senator Barack Obama, and "Jazz Days" a series of global concerts sponsored by UNESCO and The Monk Institute of Jazz with Stevie Wonder, Chaka Khan and many legends of music. His work as director includes "Herbie Hancock's Possibilities", the award-winning short film "Flavio" and music videos for artists including Antibalas, Kaki King, Lionel Loueke, Lizz Wright, Soulive, Herbie Hancock and Derek Trucks. He's shot videos for the Yeah Yeah Yeahs and edited videos for The Kings of Leon. As an editor, he's cut campaigns for Apple, GAP, Puma, installations for Barney's, RAA and the 2015 Milan World's Fair, and films with The Rainforest Alliance, Goods for Good, Amazon Aid and (RED). His films have screened at festivals worldwide and on HDNet, Showtime, BET, MTV and PBS. Most recently, Jon's producing "Africa Calling", a multi-media music and video project in partnership with UNICEF, USAID, Angelique Kidjo and students from Benin's CIAMO school of music to raise awareness around malaria treatment and prevention in West Africa.



JON GOLDEN • EXECUTIVE PRODUCER, EDITOR

Jon Golden has been working as a professional photographer for 25 years. His assignments have taken him to over 40 countries and required him to sail more than 20,000 miles at sea. Jon has produced stunning images, documenting some of the worlds most remote and harsh places including Baffin Island (Canadian Arctic), Gobi and Patagonia deserts of Mongolia and Argentina, the Amazon (Peru), and northwest Iceland. His images have been published in many major U.S. magazines including Newsweek, Sports Illustrated and Virginia Quarterly Review. Jon is also a founding member of "LOOK3 Festival of the Photograph". Much of Jon's career has been focused on promoting the work of nonprofits, which include the Building Goodness Foundation in Haiti, Guatemala and Louisiana, Firefly Kids in Russia, Impossible2Possible, The Nature Conservancy and the Amazon Aid Foundation. Jon studied Environmental Science and Computer Science at the University of Virginia. He lives in Charlottesville, Virginia and loves to travel and cook.

RIVER OF GOLD • FILMMAKER BIOS

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PHYLLIS KOENIG • EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Formerly with Über Content, a media company at the forefront of the digital landscape, combining the power of technology, analytics and content to bring about a Über digital experience. Koenig is currently owner/executive producer of R A U C O U S Content: “At our core, we are storytellers. A collective of artists brought together with a passion for creating. In any platform. Over any length. Our mission is to always entertain. To make you feel. To make you laugh. To take you on a journey. Our work is our voice. Our voice reveals who we are.”

PRESTON LEE • EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

After garnering a decade’s worth of success with Über Content, which he co-ran with partner Phyllis Koenig for 10 years. Lee was featured in numerous profiles and accolades in the likes of Adweek and Creativity, including being listed as one of Creativity’s top 2015 production companies, and picking up awards such as One Show and CLIOs in the process. Lee said that the timing was right to launch his own banner. Lee’s newest venture is Sanctuary, a production company focused on curating and developing great talent across all genres. Sanctuary focuses on the successful convergence of advertising and entertainment.

RON HAVIV • PHOTOJOURNALIST

Ron Haviv is an Emmy nominated, award-winning photojournalist and co-founder of the photo agency VII, who has been dedicated to documenting conflict and raising awareness about human rights issues around the globe. In the last three decades, Haviv has covered more than twenty-five conflicts and worked in over one hundred countries. He has published three critically acclaimed collections of photography, and his work has been featured in numerous museums and galleries, including the Louvre, the United Nations, and the Council on Foreign Relations. Haviv’s photographs are in the collections at The Houston Museum of Fine Arts and George Eastman House amongst others as well as numerous private collections. Haviv has produced an unflinching record of the injustices of war and his photography has had singular impact. His work in the Balkans, which spanned over a decade of conflict, was used as evidence to indict and convict war criminals at the international tribunal in The Hague. President George H.W. Bush cited Haviv’s chilling photographs documenting paramilitary violence in Panama as one of the reasons for the 1989 American intervention. Haviv is the central character in six documentary films, including National Geographic Explorer’s Freelance in a World of Risk, in which he speaks about the dangers of combat photography, including his numerous detentions and close calls. He has provided expert analysis and commentary on ABC World News, BBC, CNN, NPR, MSNBC, NBC Nightly News, Good Morning America.The Charlie Rose Show and The Washington Post.

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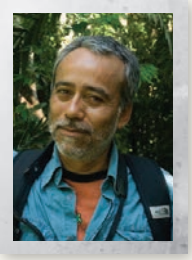
DONOVAN WEBSTER • EXECUTIVE PRODUCER, JOURNALIST

Donovan Webster is a journalist and author. A former senior editor for Outside magazine, he has written for National Geographic, Smithsonian, Best Life, Vanity Fair, Men's Health, Garden & Gun, The New Yorker, and The New York Times Magazine, among other publications. He also served as Interim Editor of the Virginia Quarterly Review, and as an instructor in the Department of Media Studies at the University of Virginia. He wrote Traveling the Long Road to Freedom, One Step at a Time, which was published in the Smithsonian Magazine. He was also co-leader of the expedition "Running the Sahara," an on-foot crossing of North Africa from Senegal to the Suez in Egypt. In 1996, he co-founded Physicians Against Landmines/Center for International Rehabilitation (CIR). An international, non-governmental humanitarian organization, CIR sponsors wheelchair and prosthetics programs, plus prosthetics-fabrication training and disability advocacy in post-conflict nations worldwide. In 1997, as part of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, CIR was a co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize. In 2001, he became an honorary chief of the Kachin hill tribes of northern Burma.



ENRIQUE ORTIZ • BIOLOGIST/ACTIVIST

Enrique Ortiz was born and raised in Lima, Peru. He has been trained as a tropical ecologist (San Marcos University, Lima and Princeton University, New Jersey), with a long history of research on species and ecological systems in coastal/marine, deserts, highlands and tropical forest ecosystems. His specialty is in community ecology (plant - animal interactions) and he has authored several research papers and popular articles on a variety of themes, mainly on species biology, and management of non timber forest products, particularly on Brazil nuts. Enrique has a solid knowledge of tropical forests (locally and regionally) from biological, social, economic, and political perspectives. Apart from his biological background, Enrique is perhaps better known for his activism and leadership throughout Peru and Latin America in conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems. He has been working with several Peruvian, Amazonian, and North American non-governmental organizations. He is a founder and board member of the Amazon Conservation Association and President of the Asociación para la Conservación de la Cuenca Amazonica, a leading Peruvian NGO. He lives in Washington DC, and travels frequently to Amazonian basin countries as well as other unpredictable wilderness spots around the world.

THOMAS E. LOVEJOY • CONSERVATION BIOLOGIST

Thomas E. Lovejoy is a Senior Fellow at the United Nations Foundation and Professor of Environmental Science and Policy at George Mason University. Lovejoy, a tropical biologist and conservation biologist, has worked in the Amazon of Brazil since 1965. Starting in the 1970's he helped bring attention to the issue of tropical deforestation and in 1980 published the first estimate of global extinction rates (in the Global 2000 Report to the President). He conceived the idea for the long term study on forest fragmentation in the Amazon (started in 1978) which is the largest experiment in landscape ecology, the Minimum Critical Size of Ecosystems project (also known as the Biological Dynamics of Forest Fragments Project). He also coined the term "Biological diversity", originated the concept of debt-for-nature swaps and has worked on the interaction between climate change and biodiversity for more than 20 years. In the past, he served as the Senior Advisor to the President of the United Nations Foundation, as the Chief Biodiversity Advisor and Lead Specialist for the Environment for the Latin American region for the World Bank, as the Assistant Secretary for Environmental and External Affairs for the Smithsonian Institution, and as Executive Vice President of World Wildlife Fund-US. He has served on advisory councils in the Reagan, George H.W. Bush, and Clinton administrations. He received his B.S. and Ph.D. in biology from Yale University.

RIVER OF GOLD • FILMMAKER BIOS

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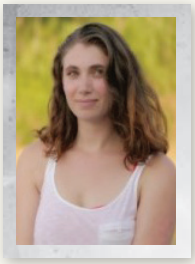
ANTHONY MARINELLI • MUSIC

Anthony Marinelli has has composed music in over sixty motion pictures including Young Guns, Planes, Trains & Automobiles, Leaving Las Vegas. His large scale orchestral work was commissioned by the Los Angeles Philharmonic and premiered at the Hollywood Bowl. He played keyboards on Michael Jackson's mega-hit Thriller as well as classic recordings for such renowned artists as James Brown, Lionel Richie, Van Halen, Herb Alpert, Giorgio Moroder, Supertramp and Quincy Jones. He's also written catchy music for thousands of television commercials including Apple Computer campaigns, Microsoft, Nike, Mercedes Benz, Budweiser, Jaguar and Shell to name a few. His early years pioneering modular analog synthesizers positioned Anthony at the center of the ensuing music technology revolution.



HEATHER MYTELKA • ASSOCIATE PRODUCER

Heather Mytelka is the Program Manager of the Amazon Aid Foundation. Her work has taken her from the deep Peruvian jungle to the United Nations Climate Change Negotiations as an advocate for protection of tropical rainforests. Heather joined the Amazon Aid team full time after graduating from the University of Virginia where she studied medieval art history. Heather has been an associate producer on multiple educational media projects and recently made her directorial debut with a short piece on Acre Care, Amazon Aid's platform for direct private protection of the Amazon rainforest. In addition to her work with Amazon Aid, supports local efforts in environmental community activism.

PARVENE MICHAELS • ASSOCIATE PRODUCER

Parvene Michaels, President and C0-Founder of IMP is a veteran television marketing and events producer with over 20 years experience in the entertainment industry. She is the founder of Innovative Media Productions and the creator and executive producer of the critically acclaimed MTV/Showtime series "Music in High Places," which was sponsored by MasterCard, MSN, RCA and RadioShack. The series, which benefited the Grammy Foundation and is now currently available on DVD, takes recording artists to the most ancient sites on earth for music performance and adventure. Michaels also has extensive experience in developing, producing and handling publicity for some of Hollywood's top cause-related projects, including producing such high profiled events as the Earth Day Awards at the United Nations. Over the years, Michaels has also handled publicity for a vast array of high profile recording artists, including Bob Dylan and Tom Petty, James Brown and Michael Jackson (during "Thriller"), as well as corporate publicity, series and specials for The Family Channel, TNT, MTV and the Discovery Channel, among others. Michaels and her partner, veteran music industry executive Alan Oken, are business development consultants to many top entertainment companies in the area of branded entertainment and develop strategic alliances between top U.S. advertisers and film, television and live events.

RIVER OF GOLD • SELECT CREW LIST

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NARRATED BY:
SISSY SPACEK
HERBIE HANCOCK

DIRECTED BY:
SARAH DUPONT
REUBEN AARONSON

PRODUCED BY:
SARAH DUPONT
REUBEN AARONSON
JAMES CAVELLO

AMAZON AID FOUNDATION EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:
SARAH DUPONT
JAMES CAVELLO
MARGARITE ALMEIDA
DONOVAN WEBSTER
JON FINE
JON GOLDEN

ÜBER CONTENT EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:
PHYLLIS KOENIG
PRESTON LEE

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RIVER OF GOLD • SELECT CREW LIST

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Protecting the Amazon and the world's forests is urgent, and it will take global awareness and action to save them.

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To this end, Amazon Aid Foundation provides proven, award-winning leadership in developing powerful, relevant multimedia that has been successful in changing minds, hearts and government policy:

River of Gold **Official Trailer**

Anthem for the Amazon

Anthem for the Amazon, Lyric Version

Voices for the Amazon

Why Should You Care about the Amazon?

Artists for the Amazon

Be a Better Consumer/Do You Know Where your Gold Comes From?

Mercury Uprising: a documentary

River of Gold Social Impact Campaign - in partnership with The Abaunza Group & global stakeholders

River of Gold Project Deck

Photo by Tomás Munita

In tandem with the film, Amazon Aid has produced curriculum with our partners *Journeys in Film* that will amplify the film's impact and educate students worldwide about the importance of the Amazon and promote working solutions for saving it.

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Journeys in Film™
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH USC ROSSIER SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
WWW.JOURNEYSINFILM.ORG

A photo exhibit by award winning photographer Ron Haviv will accompany our documentary *River of Gold* as it travels to campuses around the globe.

AMAZON AID WARRIOR GUIDE was developed in conjunction with the *River of Gold* Journeys in Film curriculum to provide specific activism project ideas and guidelines for students.

Photo by Ron Haviv, VII Agency

RIVER OF GOLD · ABOUT

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Technical Details
Shooting Format: Digital Video NTSC
Runtime: 61 minutes
Aspect Ratios: 1.78
Film Sound: LTRT

Date of Completion: September 2018
Country of Production: USA
Country of Filming: Peru
Contains dialogue in: English, Spanish with subtitles
River of Gold Official Trailer: https://vimeo.com/158914433

River of Gold Social Impact Campaign - in partnership with The Abaunza Group & global stakeholders

River of Gold Project Deck