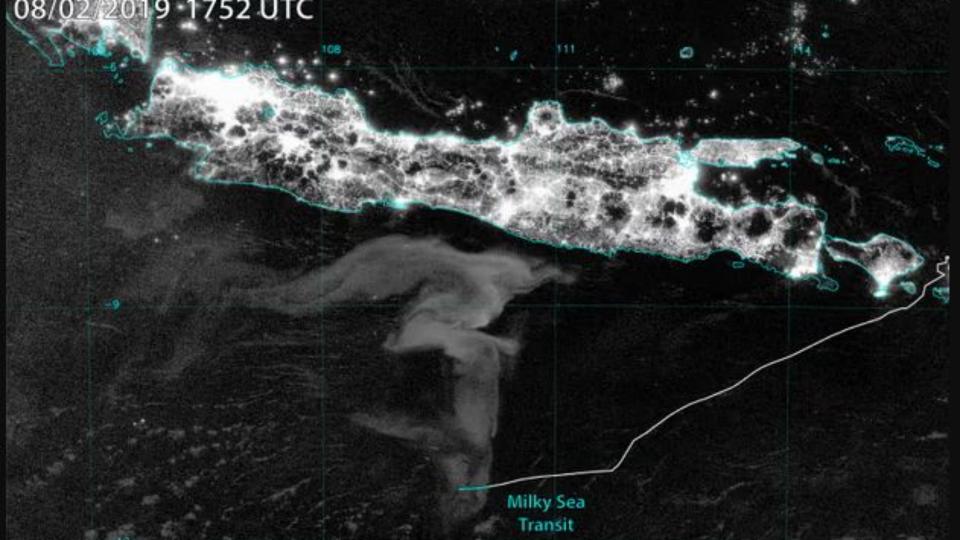


When retired he decided it was time to fulfill his biggest dream, to sail around the world. We are following Johan, story from preparation, farewell to his working life, and the voyage until the end, with a few more trips after to reach the point that he is ready to let go and sell the boat. Three years long journey when he creates connections that wouldn't happen on the land. A lot of much younger people come and learn, he provides a safe environment and an adventure. Crew differ by age and nationality. Reasons for putting themselves in small space with other strangers varies. Tera has no experience in sailing, however, she ended up coming on board and shooting the story over 11 months, she came to escape the fear and over the time created a plan. At the moment she is searching producer and editor to finish the feature-lenght film.

She was just one from many inexperienced sailors. Taking time off society, escapism, or meditation on long passages are the reasons for a lot of young people to come and learn. Sailing yacht Ganesha circumnavigates the globe and experiences the phenomenon of Milky Seas. That makes it in newspapers worldwide mainly because Ganesha's crew is the very first in history to take a picture and describe the bioluminescent bacteria in better detail. The captain finishes his journey during the pandemic, takes a boat for a few more trips and after 7 years decides to sell it. Over that period around 40 people came and learn from him. He shows us how it looks to achieve the dream on a daily basis and how life continues after that I wish to finish film to show two achievements wrapped around each other with not that common friendship.



Approach

Tera is telling the story in the form of VO, the reason to go on the boat, the escapism and fear, searching for something else than that, With a naive approach she breaks the circle of inherited fear and clarifies what she always wanted but was scared to pursue. VO combines her stories from the log book as well and combines them with other crew experiences and memories. Shots and scenes from everyday life on the boat including preparation for the trip, sailor's responsibilities and lots of learning from the captain. There are a couple of audio interviews with some crew members, also about the Milky Sea, which will be mainly created from newspaper articles (BBC, Guardian, New York Times, combined with the voiceovers of the crew) and Professor Miller about the phenomenon and show the only picture taken. I would like to work with fragments of animation to show the phenomenon.

The storyline follows the voyage of the boat and will be shown on the map, the parts of the trip that weren't shot will be shown on the map and accompanied by a Captain interview.

History

Boat Ganesha, named by the Hindu god of wisdom and new beginnings, embarked on its journey in May 2017 and returned to its home port in Burnham on Crouch in September 2020. It took almost the same amount of time as the first circumnavigation ever 1519-1522 by F.Magalhães, however the the trip was prolonged for other reasons such as the pandemic. Isolation during long ocean crossings weren't accepted either so sometimes boat had to wait in the marina and experience a shortage of competent crew when possible to travel.

Milky Sea: The phenomenon is also called the 8th natural wonder of the world and was first seen in 1854. In 1995 boat confirmed seeing the phenomenon but only in 2019 did the crew of Ganesha explore the bioluminescent bacteria and take the very first picture in human history.

Structure

Act 1

Johan's dream is to circumnavigate the globe leaving his home and his wife and preparing everything for the journey. With crew builded from various amateur sailors. The Atlantic crossing is new to everyone, same as everyone has been stranger to each other. Long days without seeing another boat, just 7 people together day by day. 16 days from Cape Verde to Caribbean and the boat continue.

Act 2

With new confidence, Ganesha follows her plan and continues around the world. In Australia, most of the crew are women. Tera leaves in Bali. Right after in Indian ocean the phenomenon of Milky sea have been experienced and Naomi gets curious what it was but can not find anything at the time. Slowly sailing into the pandemic, which slows the journey as well as complicates getting crew for longer passages, Tera is trying to get back for two months and finally arriving and staying until the end with ever changing crew.

Act 3

After coming back he can't stop sailing just yet. He keeps the boat for next two years and go with friends for two more trips, one to the north (Shetlands, Faroe Islands and Iceland) and one to Mediterranean. In meantime prof. Miller finds out about Ganesha's experience with Milky Seas and shares the story with the world. Satisfying experience seems to be the right moment to sell the boat. Sailing was part of his life for over 30 years.

Characters

Captain Johan,

Dutch, in his sixties. Lives in the UK

About 30 years of sailing experience brought him to his final passage. He loves to teach and is really keen on safety, once someone shows him sailing and he wants to pass it on. He never had any children and with younger people, there is an opportunity to share what he knows.



Wife MeeMee

Burmese, in her sixties, lives in the UK

Mee is a bit of a back figure as she hasn't joined the boat so she doesn't appear much.

We see her after the trip, dedicated to Johan but also very fulfilled with her own life, she is quiet and loves her garden.



Friend Gary

British, in his sixties, lives in the UK

Gary went sailing before the world trip, and he joined also for the Atlantic crossing and trip to Iceland. Most support for repairs came from him. Even though he was usually older than most of the crew, he filled the gap between Johan and the "youngsters". Gary and Tera came sailing in 2015 when the boat was brought to the UK.



Documentarist Tera

Czech, in her thirties, lives in the UK

She only wanted to cross the ocean. No sailing experience but wanted to make a documentary. Her journey was a lot about conquering fear and finding the right direction. She kept on coming back and following the boat for 7 years. Learn how to achieve a dream while working on her one. With Johan they formed a friendship of family they both missed.



Longterm and returning crew

Duncan, Argentinian, in his forties - end of the trip, navigate with sextant

Annemiek, Dutch, in her twenties - Australia, New Zealand, last trip in Mediterranean

Neal, Scottish, in his twenties - Last part of the world trip and trip to the north

Francesca, Italian, in her thirties - Last part of the world trip and last trip in Mediterranean

Leon, German, in his twenties - Australia to Africa, last trip in Mediterranean, taken very first picture of the Milky Sea

Noemi, Australian, in her twenties - Australia to Africa, contacted professor in Colorado to confirm the Milky Sea

Locations

Prep sailing 2016 - Ramsgate to Spain

Home port - Burnham on Crouch, UK - Goodbye party / Arriving + working on the boat after the trip.

Canary Islands - Cape Verde - Atlantic Crossing - Caribbean, Australia, Indonesia, Azores, France, Around UK incl. Outer Hebrides, Orkneys, Shetlands, Faroe Islands, Iceland, Mallorca, South of Spain and Portugal.

Johan's home in Benfleet when arriving from the world trip and selling the boat.

Distribution

- Film festivals
- Outdoor events
- alternative screenings (during sailing I have tested screening on sails and it worked with my limited technology)
- After the first block of distribution, I would like to offer the film to television and VOD.

Tera Pechmannova, documentarist

Tera is an independent documentarist based in London, originally from Prague.

The name symbolizes the changes in our minds, the same as the weather. Different personalities, thoughts and they change from day to day. Sometimes easy going and sometimes bit difficult.

Crossing the ocean was about losing control and sailing into the big unknown. With lots of emotions and the realization that loosing control means gaining freedom.

"You, the Weather" will be her second feature film, everything has been self-funded and now it is coming into the post-production.

Her first feature is a documentary about an alternative family, living in the Canary Islands called - "Mother - The Way Out".

(Canary Islands, UK, Czech Republic 2021, self-funded) and

Ise-Ai (Japan, UK, Czech Republic) short film about sustainable travel, an eco-analogue developer, and Indigo dye.

I am looking for a producer who would help me to find a team and elevate the possibility for the audience to reach.

Thank you.

contact: meet.terap@gmail.com , +44(0)7944540328