

WINNER  
Best of Festival Award  
MONTEREY  
BLUE OCEANS FILM FESTIVAL  
WINNER  
Audience Choice Award  
PRINCETON  
ENVIRONMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL

WINNER  
Special Jury Award  
PORT TOWNSEND  
FILM FESTIVAL  
WINNER  
Special Jury Award  
WILD & SCENIC  
FILM FESTIVAL

WINNER  
Audience Choice Award  
MOUNTAINFILM  
IN TELLURIDE FILM FESTIVAL  
WINNER  
Special Jury Award  
ECO FOCUS  
FILM FESTIVAL

WINNER  
Audience Choice Award  
FLAGSTAFF  
MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL  
OFFICIAL SELECTION  
STARZ DENVER  
FILM FESTIVAL

WINNER  
Audience Choice Award  
HAWAII  
WAIMEA OCEAN FILM FESTIVAL  
OFFICIAL SELECTION  
D.C. ENVIRONMENTAL  
FILM FESTIVAL

WINNER  
Audience Choice Award  
ASHLAND  
INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL  
OFFICIAL SELECTION  
SAN DIEGO  
FILM FESTIVAL

# bag it

is your life too plastic?



"Gripping, funny, intelligent and sure to change your life."  
-Louie Psihoyos, Director of *The Cove*

**PRESS KIT**  
[www.bagitmovie.com](http://www.bagitmovie.com)  
A REELTHING > FILM

FILM TITLE

*Bag It*

LOG LINE

Is your life too plastic?

CONTACT INFO

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www.reelthing.us

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**SUZAN BERAZA | PRODUCER & DIRECTOR**

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TECHNICAL INFO

**ORIGINAL CUT**

TRT: 78 minutes  
Exhibition Format: DVD, Blu-Ray, HD CAM, DIGI BETA  
Aspect Ratio – 16:9 or 1.85  
Shooting Format – HD  
Color, English, Spanish Subtitles Available

**EDUCATIONAL CUTS (DVD ONLY)**

TRT: 45 minutes/65 minutes

**AWARDS**

Best of Festival Jury Award—Blue Ocean Film Festival  
Audience Award Best Documentary—Ashland Film Festival  
Best Environmental Sustainability Award—Reel Earth Festival  
Audience Award Best Film—Telluride Mountainfilm Festival  
Audience Award Best Film—Waimea Ocean Film Festival  
Best Documentary Feature—Topanga Canyon Film Festival  
Audience Choice Award Best Film—Princeton Environmental Film Festival  
Best Environmental Film—Sedona Film Festival  
Audience Award Best Film—Flagstaff Mountain Film Festival  
Special Jury Award—Wild & Scenic Film Festival  
Special Jury Award—Port Townsend Film Festival  
Special Jury Award—EcoFocus Film Festival  
Official Selection—STARZ Denver Film Festival  
Official Selection—San Diego Film Festival  
Official Selection—Big Sky Film Festival  
Official Selection—Environmental Film Festival in the Nation's Capital  
Official Selection—Dutch Environmental Film Festival  
Official Selection—Melbourne Environmental Film Festival  
Official Selection—Heartland Film Festival  
Official Selection—Hot Springs Film Festival  
Official Selection—Santa Fe Film Festival  
Official Selection—Frozen River Film Festival  
Official Selection—Phangan Film Festival, Thailand  
Official Selection—Boulder International Film Festival  
Official Selection—San Francisco Green Film Festival

## BROADCAST AND DISTRIBUTION INFORMATION

### **DIGITAL SALES, WHOLESALE DVD SALES & U.S. BROADCAST INQUIRIES:**

Please contact **New Video Company** for all inquiries regarding **digital sales, wholesale DVDs**. Broadcast rights will also be available through New Video after April 17th, 2012. [www.newvideo.com](http://www.newvideo.com)

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### **PUBLIC TELEVISION INQUIRIES:**

*Bag It* is currently available on all **public television** stations through **NETA**. If you are interested in having *Bag It* broadcast on your local station, please let your station programmers know to contact NETA, The National Educational Telecommunications Association. [www.netaonline.org](http://www.netaonline.org)

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### **INTERNATIONAL BROADCAST INQUIRIES:**

*Bag It* is available for **international broadcast** through **APT Worldwide**. If you are interested in having *Bag It* broadcast outside of the U.S. please contact Judy Barlow at APT Worldwide. [www.aptw.org](http://www.aptw.org)

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### **EDUCATIONAL INQUIRIES:**

**Educational Licensing** for *Bag It* is available through **New Day Films**. Two shorter educational cuts of the film are available only through New Day, as well as the original 78-minute version. [www.newday.com](http://www.newday.com)

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### **COMMUNITY & FESTIVAL SCREENING INQUIRIES:**

We welcome community groups to use this film for local outreach and engagement on the many issues addressed in the film. Please contact **New Day Films** for public performance rights. [www.newday.com](http://www.newday.com)

Americans use 60,000 plastic bags every five minutes, disposable bags that they throw away without much thought. But where is “away?” Where do the bags and other plastics end up, and at what cost to the environment, marine life and human health?

*Bag It* follows “everyman” Jeb Berrier as he navigates our plastic world. Jeb is not a radical environmentalist, but an average American who decides to take a closer look at our cultural love affair with plastics. Jeb’s journey in this documentary film starts with simple questions: Are plastic bags really necessary? What are plastic bags made from? What happens to plastic bags after they are discarded? What he learns quickly grows far beyond plastic bags.

What he discovers is shocking:

- The average American uses about **500 PLASTIC BAGS EACH YEAR**, for an average of **12 MINUTES** before they are discarded.
- **TWO MILLION PLASTIC BOTTLES** are consumed in the U.S. every **FIVE MINUTES**, less than 25% are recycled.
- The average American contributes **800 pounds** of packaging waste to landfills per year.
- **14 MILLION POUNDS** of trash end up in the **OCEAN** each year.
- The floating “island” of **PLASTIC AND OTHER DEBRIS** swirling around in the North Pacific Gyre is **MORE THAN TWICE THE SIZE OF TEXAS**.
- Plastic debris resembles plankton—fish food—and there is **40 TIMES MORE PLASTIC THAN PLANKTON** in some parts of the ocean. In this way plastic enters our food chain.
- It is estimated that **100,000 MARINE MAMMALS AND SEA BIRDS DIE EACH YEAR** from becoming entangled in or ingesting plastic debris.
- Plastic bags are made of fossil fuels such as petroleum and natural gas, which are **NON-RENEWABLE** resources.
- The U.S. was once the largest **EXPORTER OF OIL** in the world. Now, it is the largest **IMPORTER**.
- **IRELAND** reduced its plastic bag use by 90% after instituting a fee on single-use disposable plastic bags.
- **CHINA** banned “ultra thin” plastic bags in 2008. They **REDUCED** their use by **40 BILLION** bags in the first year.

When Jeb finds out he and his partner are expecting a child, his plastic odyssey becomes a truly personal one. How can they protect their baby from plastic’s pervasive health effects? Jeb looks beyond plastic bags and discovers that virtually everything in modern society — from baby bottles, to sports equipment, to dental sealants, to personal care products — is made with plastic or contains potentially harmful chemical additives used in the plastic-making process. Two of the most common of these additives, “endocrine disruptors” Bisphenol A (BPA) and phthalates, show links to cancer, diabetes, autism, attention deficit disorder, obesity, infertility, and even smaller penis size.

As adults, we make all kinds of choices of convenience: single-serve bottles, small units of food, household items, and bath and beauty products. These products are both made with and come packaged in plastic. As a consequence of our modern day culture, we have become addicted to plastics, and they have quietly infiltrated every aspect of our lives. Even our children (especially during *in utero* development) have unwittingly and alarmingly become our modern day lab rats.

*Bag It* makes it clear that it is time for a paradigm shift. Join Jeb as he meets with people who fought the American Chemistry Council lobby that spent more than a million dollars fighting the Seattle bag fee; as he interviews a man sailing the Pacific in a boat made of plastic to raise awareness about our ocean’s health; as he gets tested to determine the levels of chemicals in his own body; and as he welcomes his baby into the world, a world he hopes we can leave with a little less plastic and in a little better shape for the next generation.

“Think about it—why would you make something that you’re going to use for a few minutes out of a material that’s basically going to last forever, and you’re just going to throw it away? What’s up with that?”  
—Jeb Berrier

## SYNOPSIS SHORT

Try going a day without plastic. Plastic is everywhere and infiltrates our lives in unimaginable and frightening ways. In this touching and often flat-out-funny film, we follow “everyman” Jeb Berrier, who is admittedly not a tree hugger, as he embarks on a global tour to unravel the complexities of our plastic world. What starts as a film about plastic bags evolves into a wholesale investigation into plastic and its affect on our waterways, oceans, and even our own bodies. We see how our crazy-for-plastic world has finally caught up to us and what we can do about it. Today. Right now.

## SYNOPSIS LONG

Our story follows Jeb Berrier, an average American guy who is admittedly not a “tree hugger,” who makes a pledge to stop using plastic bags. His girlfriend, Anne, joins him in the challenge to decrease their use of plastic at home. This small action gets Jeb thinking about plastic—not just about plastic bags, but other kinds of plastic. “What is plastic made of? Is it recyclable? Does it decompose when it ends up in the landfill? Does plastic have negative health effects?” Jeb wants to learn more, so he embarks on a global tour to unravel the complexities of our plastic world.

Jeb begins his journey by delving into the history of the plastic bag and how it has become a ubiquitous part of our daily lives. Only 50 years ago, plastic bags did not exist! Jeb travels around the world to find better possible models. In Ireland he finds that a fee on plastic bags has had a tremendous positive impact on plastic bag reduction—over 90%. He ventures to communities in the U.S. that have implemented or proposed plastic bag bans and fees, and we learn of the complicated politics surrounding the issue. He discovers that the American Chemistry Council (the ACC) has been leveraging big money to keep plastic bag use free.

Plastic bags then lead Jeb into the world of “single-use disposable” plastic. Jeb goes into a well-known coffee chain and is incensed to see everyone sitting inside using to-go cups. Jeb alludes to our “culture of convenience”—we want everything now and FAST! Most people don’t even think about the massive amount of plastic wrappers, food containers, bottles and packaging materials that make up an average American’s plastic waste per year—800 lbs!!

Upon thinking about this massive amount of waste from only single use disposables, Jeb then begins to consider the rest of our waste. What really happens to items that have the “chasing arrows” recycling symbol on them? Do they all really get recycled? What do the numbers mean? Jeb does quite a bit of research on the matter and still finds himself confused. Turns’ out, recycling is very confusing, and *Bag It* attempts to get to the bottom of this.

In an intimate moment in front of the camera, Jeb tells us that he and Anne are going to have a baby! The story of Jeb and Anne about to have a baby gives the movie a dramatic twist, as the story becomes very intimate. We watch our protagonists go through all of the excitement, nervousness, planning, and joy that comes with having their first child. We listen intently as Anne and Jeb describe their feelings about plastic as it relates to their unborn child. Everything takes on new meaning when the world you are living in will be what you are creating for your child.

*Bag It* explores the impact of plastic on marine life. Plastic never fully degrades, and when it is thrown “away,” some of it finds its way into our waterways, and eventually, our oceans. Plastic breaks down into smaller and smaller pieces, and marine animals are ingesting these bits of plastic ... and it’s killing them. It is estimated that over a hundred thousands birds and marine animals die each year from ingesting, or getting entangled in, plastic debris. Jeb learns that the chemicals in plastics are making their way up the food chain and straight onto our dinner plates.

If plastic is making its way into the food we eat, in what other ways might plastic be impacting our health? Again, this hits close to home. We discover that to make plastics hard or soft, chemicals must be added. Chemicals such as Bisphenol-A, (BPA) and phthalates are added during manufacturing. Scientists have overwhelming evidence that these and other chemicals are affecting humans—specifically babies in utero and children. BPA and phthalates are linked to numerous health problems—cancer, diabetes, autism, attention deficit disorder, obesity, infertility—even smaller penis size. These chemicals are also found in personal care products and cosmetics, something not many people know, and leach into our bodies through our skin. Jeb asks, who is protecting us? Do corporations care about their consumers, or just about their profits?

While *Bag It* is a film that deals with a serious subject, the film’s tone and mood is kept light to keep audiences engaged and entertained. *Bag It* will appeal to a wide audience, not just environmentalists. While many environmental films leave viewers disheartened and feeling helpless, *Bag It* will leave viewers feeling empowered, informed, and excited to create change starting today!

## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT**

Since May 2010, more than 700 community organizations, schools, libraries, and educational programs have integrated *Bag It* into their programming, bringing the film to what we estimate is now tens of thousands of people nationwide. *Bag It* continues to be available for schools and community organizations to host their own screenings through our educational distributor New Day Films.

In conjunction with these screenings we have also created the *Bag It Town Program*, which encourages groups to take their actions and involvement to the next level by working towards legislative change. *Bag It Towns* are municipalities that systematically reduce the collective consumption of single-use disposable bags. Our goal in 2012 is to help 20 U.S. towns become *Bag It Towns*.

To help individuals get started in this effort we have an expert on staff to help walk people through the often-daunting process of working with local governments. We have also created a step-by-step tool kit to arm the "average guy" with the tools necessary to get started.

*Bag It is a great example of a film that not only entertains an audience, but changes hearts and minds.*  
-Emily Verellen, Fledgling Fund Programs Director

## **SCHOOL OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT**

Students from elementary through college are among our most important audiences, as they have the power to create change over the long term. *Bag It* is available on a special Educational DVD intended for use by teachers, librarians and educators of all kinds.

Our Educational DVD includes two versions of the film on one disc: 45-minute and 65-minute versions. Each is edited to fit short class periods and to accommodate post-film discussion. We hope screening *Bag It* in schools will serve as a platform for students and teachers to delve into the issues surrounding plastic and inspire students to make lasting changes. We have also created a 20-page curriculum guide for educators who want to implement *Bag It* into their lesson plans.

*"Bag It is a great way to begin my unit on environmental awareness. It has really engaged and stimulated environmental activism among my students. I noticed more students bringing their own reusable water bottles to class afterwards and had many students tell me how they talked about the film at home with their families."*

-Kristen McDermott  
10th grade biology, Centaurus High School, Lafayette, Colorado

## **1. Do you have any practical suggestions for what I can do?**

The first step is to become more aware. As you go about your life, really begin to think about your choices, your true “needs,” and how they can most conscientiously be met. We have put many of the resources we used in the making of this film on our website. These resources all offer great ways to get involved, from learning more about various ongoing campaigns, to writing letters to your elected officials and business owners, to simple day-to-day alternative ways of living. Before making this film, I really thought that we didn’t have much power as citizens. Thankfully, I was proven wrong. We have enormous influence over government and corporations. We just have to be passionate and make our voices heard.

## **2. What is your relationship to Jeb Berrier, the film’s host? How did you find him?**

I needed a face for the film and knew that I didn’t want to turn the camera on my own family; it was going to be enough of a challenge to get the film done. I met Jeb about 16 years ago when I was the artistic director of the Telluride Repertory Theater Company. I directed Jeb in several plays, and have also worked with him as a fellow actor. When thinking about who would fit the film, I knew instantly that Jeb would be perfect to depict the “everyman” that I was looking for. He is non-threatening, not preachy, sincere, just an average guy trying to figure out how to make his way in the world as best he can. He is also flat out funny, and I knew he could bring out the humor in this potentially dour and depressing subject matter.

## **3. How did the pregnancy change your story?**

It made the story line of the film take shape. The film needed a compelling reason to discuss important facts about how plastic additives are affecting the development of our children, and why information about this topic is so important for women of child-bearing age. How was Jeb going to do this in a way that would speak to future moms and parents? Once Jeb was a future dad, he became intensely involved in the topic of health-related risks associated with plastics and plastic additives.

## **4. How long did the project take?**

We began work on this film over three years ago, and what a wild ride it has been! We began with a short list of plastic topics to research, but the list grew rapidly. One interview led to the next, and there was always new information being revealed that we felt the average person knew little or nothing about! As long as the information held our interest, we felt that it would hold audiences interest.

## **5. What was your inspiration for the film?**

A few years ago, a competition was created where our small town challenged a neighboring town to see who could reduce their use of plastic bags the most. I got on board to make a short film chronicling the challenge. As I mentioned before, with each interview the story grew and grew. As a filmmaker, I decided this would be a great journey to document.

## **6. How were you able to fund the project?**

From the very start we felt it would be important not to align ourselves with any single organization or special interest group to keep the message as unbiased as possible. We wanted to tell a story with content integrity and a clear, uncompromising message. Grant funding and generous donations from family foundations and individuals have made this film possible.

## **7. What was the most interesting subject of the film for you personally?**

I grew up on islands, so the ocean section really hit home for me, as I spent my youth in the water. But I have to say that when we got to our health interviews, I was floored. When we first began the film, health wasn’t even going to be included in the film, but we came to realize that it was so important because the general public is uninformed and misinformed. I am a mother, and I have a nine-year-old son. I took the normal precautions when I was pregnant—I ate really healthy, I didn’t drink, I exercised—but I didn’t know anything about BPA, phthalates, or any other chemicals that could potentially be a threat to the health of my unborn child. I was under the impression that chemicals had to be tested for safety. When I found out that this wasn’t the case, I felt angry. I knew that parents deserved to know this information—and wanted to know!

## **8. What changes have you made in your life? How hard has it been?**

Well, I definitely use way less plastic than I used to. Our family has really shifted its priorities. We try to worry less about making money and focus more on quality of life. We cook meals from scratch, not out of boxes. I dusted off the bread maker and now bake all of our bread. I make our yogurt. I even recently started making our own cleaning products and lotions. We compost. We have noticed that we create so little garbage now that it takes us over two weeks to fill our 13 gallon garbage can. This all may sound really time consuming, but it isn’t so bad. We seem to have more time than we used to. One real thief of time and money is television, so we switched it off. I wonder how we ever had time to watch it. We don’t miss it.

All of this being said, we are by no means perfect. I still grab a bag of chips now and then, or something else with really stupid packaging. But on the whole our lives are very different, and we really like the changes.

### DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

A few years ago, I made a resolution to stop using plastic bags. This simple decision opened the floodgates. I suddenly became aware of plastic for the first time. Fast forward a year, to when my town entered into a friendly competition against a neighboring town to see who could reduce their use of plastic bags the most. I began work on a short film to chronicle this challenge. Plastic bags led me into the world of other single-use disposable items – things that are, by design, meant to be used only once and then thrown “away.” I started to question where “away” really is. I came to realize that plastic is an amazing subject, and that when you start to unravel it, you find the whole world attached.

The story in the film really grew from this initial idea, and the film quickly grew from a short to a feature-length documentary. Jeb Berrier, long time friend from my previous theater life, loved the idea and wanted to be involved. The more research we did, the more complex the issues became, such as how plastic affects not only the health of our planet, but our own health and that of our unborn children. Just as these details came to light, Jeb and his partner Anne found out that they were going to have a baby! Following Jeb and Anne’s personal journey with the pregnancy took our story to the next level, which was the personal touch that I had been hoping to find with the story all along.

After two years working on this project, I know that everyone connected to this film has at some point felt inspired, shocked, frustrated and overwhelmed. We are all average people who want to do the best we can. It is not always easy and/or obvious what the best choices are. I often think of how my grandparents managed without all of this plastic. While modern conveniences have moved us forward in many ways, I am constantly finding things cluttering my life that aren’t “necessary” at all. Often I find that good ‘ole common sense leads us in the right direction.

### JEB'S STATEMENT

When Suzan asked me to help her with a film about plastic bags I agreed without giving it much thought. I had no idea what I was in for. I never really liked plastic bags, especially seeing them flying in the wind as trash, but I hadn’t given much thought to the bigger picture. We began by locating “experts” in the field from all different angles of the issue.

We found some incredible people working hard to change what seems to have become the status quo. The more experts I interviewed, the more I learned, the more confusing things became. It can often seem like the more you learn about something, the less you seem to know. The topic quickly grew from bags to waste, to issues of recycling, to the garbage patch in the ocean, and to the chemicals in plastic that can harm us, and most importantly, are harming our children.

No longer was I just a guy along for the ride, I became more and more invested in the topic. Then, during the making of the movie, I learned that my partner, Anne, was pregnant and that we were going to bring a child into the world. Everything took on an even greater meaning. The story of the film then became obvious to us. It would be my story and my journey, to learn about and shed light on all of these complex issues regarding plastic in our world. Hopefully audiences will be able to identify with my story, as this learning process has taken me through feelings of disbelief, frustration, at times outrage, but most importantly, hope.



# CREDITS

Featuring Interviews From:

**DR. FREDERICK VOM SAAL**

**DR. THEO COLBORN**

**PROF. DR. MICHAEL BRAUNGART**

**SYLVIA EARLE**

**RICHARD CONLIN**

**CHRISTINE QUINN**

**JARED BLUMENFELD**

**FREDRIC SCHEER**

**BRADY MONTZ**

**PETER COYOTE**

**DR. MARCUS ERIKSEN**

**CAPT. CHARLES MOORE**

**CHRIS JORDAN**

**CAPT. PAUL WATSON**

**ERIKA SCHREDER**

**ELIZABETH GRIFFIN**

**WALLACE 'J' NICHOLS**

**SCOTT HARRISON**

**LINDEN DAHLKEMPER**

**DAN IMHOFF**

**ANNIE LEONARD**

**DR. SHANNA SWAN**

**BETH TERRY**

**ELIZABETH ROYTE**

**ELLIE ROSE**

**SHARON ROWE**

**ERIC GOLDSTEIN**

**MARTIN BOURQUE**

**RICHARD THOMPSON**

**JOHN KLAVITTER**

**REBECCA SUTTON**

**SHARYLE PATTON**

Director

Executive Producer

Producer

Director of Photography

Camera

Editor

Composer

Writer

Professor, Endocrine Disruptors Group

Director, TEDX (The Endocrine Disruption Exchange)

Author, *Cradle to Cradle*

National Geographic Ocean Explorer

President, Seattle City Council

Speaker, New York City Council

Director, San Francisco Department of Environment

CEO, Cereplast

Sierra Club chapter president

Activist, Author, Actor

Scientist, Algalita Marine Research Foundation

Founder, Algalita Marine Research Foundation

Artist, Activist

Captain, Sea Shepherd

Staff Scientist, Washington Toxics Coalition

Senior Scientist, Oceana

Researcher, California Academy of Sciences

Chair, San Diego Surfrider Foundation

Ensign, US Coast Guard

Author, *Paper or Plastic*

Author, *The Story of Stuff*

Prof. of Environmental Medicine, Univ. of Rochester

Activist, [www.fakeplasticfish.com](http://www.fakeplasticfish.com)

Author, *Bottlemania*, *Garbage Land*

Founder, Foam Free Seattle

Founder, Eco-Bags

Natural Resources Defense Council

Executive Director, Ecology Center

Marine Biologist, University of Plymouth

Wildlife Biologist, Midway Atoll Refuge

Staff Scientist, Environmental Working Group

Director, Commonweal Biomonitoring

**SUZAN BERAZA**

**JUDITH KOHIN**

**MICHELLE HILL**

**LEIGH REAGAN**

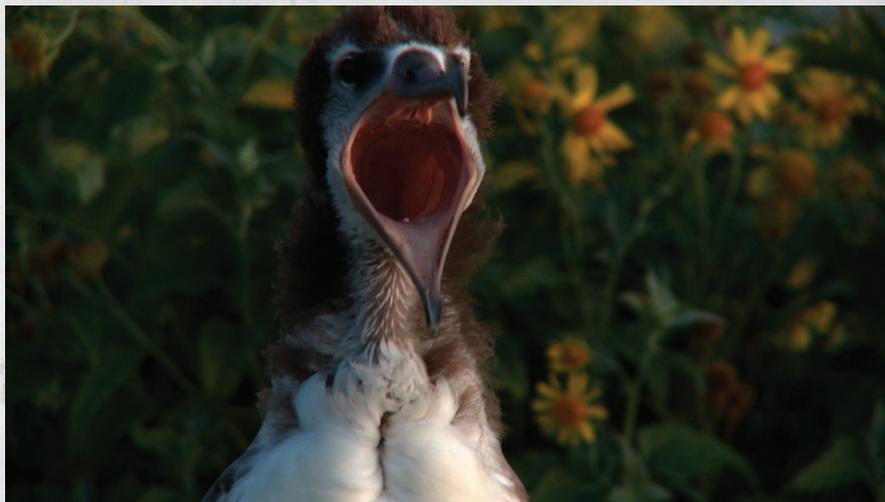
**JIM HURST**

**CASEY NAY**

**LARRY GROUPÉ**

**MICHELLE CURRY WRIGHT**

# PHOTOS



**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:** Jeb and Anne with baby William; Jeb cruising the aisles, filled of plastic packaging; Baby Albatross, Midway Atoll; Urban trash filled waterway; Young child with Phthalate rubber ducky.

**Suzan Beraza | Director**

Born in Jamaica and raised in Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic, Suzan Beraza's thought-provoking films challenge viewers to examine their lives and consider the impact of their choices. Social and environmental issues pervade her work. Her films have appeared on PBS, and at many festivals, winning top awards at Worldfest, Montreal Film Festival, San Luis Obispo Film Festival, EarthVision, and Mountainfilm in Telluride Film Festival. Documentaries she has worked on have also won three Telly Awards, including Best Documentary.

**Jeb Berrier | Talent**

Jeb is the host for a morning television show on Telluride TV. Before that, he was an on air personality for Plum TV for three years, where he won an Emmy award for his coverage of the 2008 Democratic Convention. Jeb also works as an actor and director, doing theater, film and television commercials. He was a member of the National Shakespeare Company in New York City in the mid 90's. Jeb also produces the annual Telluride Comedy Festival.

**Judith Kohin | Executive Producer**

Judith was the executive director of the Ah Haa School for the Arts in Telluride, Colorado from 1991- 2006, an organization she grew from a two person staff to one of southwest Colorado's most successful arts organizations. Under her leadership, the Ah Haa School served thousands of students, hosted hundreds of art exhibitions and raised over a million dollars for arts programming, facilities and financial aid.

**Michelle Hill | Producer**

Michelle has only recently discovered the art of film production. She is an artist, small business owner and environmentalist. She believes in the incredible power of film to serve as a catalyst for social and environmental change. Documentary film production has been a perfect way to integrate her many skills and talents. Bag It is her first film.

**Leigh Reagan | Director of Photography**

Leigh has shot and edited television programs for PBS, Outdoor Life Network (OLN), VOOM Network, Fox Network, the Showtime Network, Rush HD, National Geographic and NBC. She edited Re-evolution: *The Evolution of Extreme Sports*, a 13-part television series for Showtime. Her latest documentary, *Don't Fence Me In*, which she shot and edited, aired on PBS in April 2008.

**Jim Hurst | Camera, 2<sup>nd</sup> Unit Director**

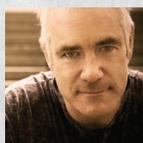
Jim is an accomplished photographer, adventurer, climber and filmmaker who has worked on many documentary films, including shooting for two years in India for the film *Schooling the World*. His most recent project, *The Sharp End* was for NBC and challenged him to film climbing and base-jumping on the Eiger in Switzerland. He specializes in self-sufficient location documentary shooting in places where a large crew would be impractical or obtrusive.

**Michelle Curry Wright | Writer**

Michelle Curry Wright, who has lived in Telluride for many years, has been a journalist, an essayist, and written two novels (*Wait and See*, Annie Lee, Warner Books, 2001 and *Miranda Blue Calling*, Avon, 2004). She is currently adapting one of them for the screen. She is also a painter and works full time at an art gallery. This is her first documentary film project.

**Casey Nay | Editor**

Casey has shot and edited television programs for the Outdoor Channel and Spike TV. Films he has edited have appeared at the Mountainfilm in Telluride Film Festival and Wild and Scenic Festival. In recent years he has edited for Telluride Television, Gage and Gage Productions and Reel Thing Productions. He specializes in graphic design and motion graphics. This is his first documentary film.

**Larry Groupé | Composer**

Larry Groupé is an Emmy award-winning composer with an impressive musical résumé in film, television and concert stage. His achievements have received both critical praise and popular acclaim. His theatrical scores include *The Contender*, *Deterrence*, *Resurrecting the Champ*, *Nothing but the Truth*, *Straw Dogs* and *Jonas Salk: Personally Speaking* (Emmy for Best Documentary Score). His original television scores include ABC's *Line of Fire* and HBO's *Mind of the Married Man*. Larry has composed, conducted and produced over eighty CD recordings.