

EXPORTED FROM MICHIGAN



PINE DRIVE PICTURES IN ASSOCIATION WITH INFAMOUS NETWORK AND REDTIMES FILMS PRESENT THE DOCUMENTARY FILM "EXPORTED FROM MICHIGAN"
MUSIC SAM VAIL JOHN HANSON ANIMATION ZACK CITRO BEN CHWIRKA NARRATOR PAUL NEAL ROHRER DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY JUSTIN DUVAL
ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY ROBERT SONNEVELDT ISAIAH MURRAY MIKE STEIGENGA JOHN RICHARD JASON NORMAN DALE DAVERMAN
PRODUCERS JON VANDER POL JEFF DAVERMAN JOHNO WELLS AMY FILBECK RYAN SPANGLER KRIS RITTON MARCIA VANDER WOUDE
EXPORTEDFROMMICHIGAN.COM SOCIAL MEDIA ALEXANDRA VANDER POL EDITED BY JOHNO WELLS WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY JON VANDER POL

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Exported From Michigan is a feature length documentary film about the resilience people in Michigan have shown in the face of great economic and environmental challenges. The film explores local business solutions like art, urban farming and microbreweries as well as big business innovations in wind, solar and hybrid electric auto. All over Michigan people have created and developed new economic models as solutions to these challenges. And these are not just Michigan problems, they are



SOLAR PANELS ♦ LANSING, MI



ARTPRIZE ART FESTIVAL ♦ GRAND RAPIDS, MI

Education and innovation are cornerstones of a successful economy. The documentary includes inspiring middle school and high school youth development programs such as MOSAIC Youth Theater in Detroit, Jackson Area Manufacturers Association in Jackson, and the First Robotics Team from Chelsea High School. At the college level it includes Michigan Tech's research in hybrid and electric technology, the University Research Corridor, and the



UNIV. OF MICHIGAN'S SOLAR CAR ♦ DARWIN, AUSTRALIA



KIDS LEARNING PRECISION MANUFACTURING ♦ JACKSON, MI

University of Michigan's Solar Car Team racing across the Australian outback competing in the World Solar Challenge.

Local business stories include ArtPrize, Earthwork Music Collective, Eastern Market, Brewery Vivant, Founders and Corner Breweries. Another important story the documentary explores is the growing permaculture movement in Michigan, visiting urban farms in Detroit such as Earthworks and Spirit of Hope as well as rural permaculture farms like Earthsmith Food and Forest Products in Howell.



EASTERN MARKET ♦ DETROIT, MI

great story of resilience as they adapted from boat building to manufacturing wind turbines. Even after the great decline, manufacturing is still a very important piece of Michigan's economy. Michigan is one of a few places with both the engineering talent and the skilled labor force needed to be a world leader in designing and building green energy systems.

When it comes to innovation in renewable energy, Energetx Composites in Holland is a



ENERGETX WIND TURBINES ♦ HOLLAND, MI

Ford and General Motors have both greatly increased their commitment to building hybrid and electric cars. The documentary includes interviews with Gil Portalatin at Ford and Larry T. Nitz at GM, the chief engineers for hybrid electric research and development at their respective companies. Bob Lutz is also interviewed regarding the future of electric automobiles.



CHEVY VOLT ON THE ASSEMBLY LINE ♦ DETROIT, MI

economic and environmental challenges. These solutions range from organic permaculture and craft beer to wind power and electric cars. In the end, it's about building community and quality of life. The economic and environmental crisis we're in is an opportunity to develop sustainable economic, energy and transportation systems.

Exported From Michigan tells the story of Michigan people creating solutions to serious



FORD FOCUS ELECTRIC ♦ DEARBORN, MI

JON VANDER POL ✦ WRITER, PRODUCER, DIRECTOR



Jon Vander Pol is a Grand Rapids, Michigan, native who has spent the last 20 years living in the southwest working as an independent artist and creative entrepreneur. *Exported From Michigan* is Jon's debut feature length film. Before getting into documentary filmmaking, he co-founded Infamous Network with Jeff Daverman in 1996, working as an artist, screen printer and graphic designer. A love of art, travel and culture have him inspired to keep learning about the world through documentary filmmaking.

JOHNO WELLS ✦ EDITOR, PRODUCER

Johno is a writer, director, cinematographer, editor, composer, photographer, graphic designer and painter. Since childhood he has shot cameras and made music. In 1995 he turned his passions into his full-time livelihood. He has traveled the United States, Europe and Africa to create documentary and narrative features and short films. Much of his work has been for education and the non-profit sector. He is a stay-home Dad trying to spend as much time as possible with his two little girls until they start school.



JUSTIN DUVAL ✦ CINEMATOGRAPHER



Justin Duval has been working in the motion picture industry since the end of the 20th century. He started working as a gaffer and has worked on many major studio pictures. As director of photography his feature length films have appeared on many networks including Oxygen and The SciFi Channel. Now focused on directing, his latest project, *Horsepower*, is a unique romp through time. It premiered at Santa Fe's Fantase DomeFest 2014 in the rare 360 degree format, "Dome."

ZACK CITRO ✦ ANIMATOR

Zack specializes as a 2-D and 3-D designer and animator. He has received awards for his work in Communication Arts Magazine and from the International 48 Hour Film Fest. As a motion designer he has experience working on broadcast commercials, music videos, interactive games and projection mapping. When not in front of a screen, Zack can be found cruising the streets of Denver on his bike or in the Rocky Mountains skiing, kayaking, hiking or fishing.



BEN CHWIRKA ✦ ANIMATOR



Ben Chwirka is a graphic designer and motion graphics artist from Denver, Colorado. Ben has worked on a wide array of projects, from feature films to music videos to commercials. Ben began his career filming skateboard videos and making animations for rap artists. When not moving pixels, Ben is most likely to be found on a bicycle, pool float or snowboard. He also enjoys half-price sushi, salty snacks and dinosaurs.

JEFF DAVERMAN ✦ PRODUCER

An independent artist, graphic designer and business owner, Jeff co-founded Infamous Network with Jon Vander Pol in 1996 and then started Custom Sticker Makers in 2007. He has been producing and expanding the *Root Concepts* collection of original art on stickers, apparel and canvas prints for the past 18 years, allowing him to display many artistic disciplines including painting, drawing, photography and graphic design. Jeff believes in the power of positive vibrations and collaboration by embracing opportunities to work with a wide variety of artists and businesses.



PAUL NEAL ROHRER ✧ NARRATOR



Paul Neal Rohrer is an actor, artist and narrator. For many years he hosted the *Roaring Success Radio Hour*, a weekly program about the TV, film, and theatre industry. A veteran of film, television and stage since 1971, Paul has been awarded the honorable CLIO award. He has been hired to perform for the Oscar award winning producer Carol Pasternak with Dewey-Obenchain Films on numerous occasions. In his free time Paul likes to travel and his hobbies include photography, landscaping and learning about local Colorado history.

JOHN HANSON ✧ MUSICIAN

John Hanson is a photographer, musician and filmmaker based in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Using multiple media formats his work captures the timelessness of the human spirit while striving to attain the beauty of the natural world. His work is akin to poetry and builds connections between nature and the human spirit. Utilizing a mix of traditional and contemporary tools, his work holds an integrity necessary to parallel the motifs of his subjects.



SAM VAIL ✧ MUSICIAN



Raised in Michigan, Sam is a music lover who grew up on his parents' Beatles records. As Sam grew older, his obsession with the guitar grew stronger. After spending years touring and playing in bands, he branched out into producing and recording music. Sam has produced and played with many great local acts including Vailcode and Another Grand Design. He has also played and recorded with local Ann Arbor area luminaries Kevin Meisel and studio owner Jim Roll.

Amy Filbeck has spent the past decade developing her craft as a producer on commercials for Nike, Mercedes, and AT&T. She recently produced *The Girl From Nagasaki*, a 3-D feature film adaptation of the opera *Madame Butterfly* shooting in Germany, Italy, Japan and the USA. The film screened at Sundance Film Festival in February 2014. She has several films in development and is starting production on a narrative film in Asia.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is 'Exported From Michigan' about?

Exported From Michigan is a documentary about the resilience of Michigan's people and their creativity and innovation in the face of difficult economic and environmental challenges.



DIRECTOR JON VANDER POL ✦ DARWIN, AUSTRALIA

Why did you make this documentary?

I made this film as a response to the dominant media narrative that Michigan and Detroit are in perpetual decline. There is much more to the story and many inspiring people doing incredible things. As a Michigan native I felt compelled to tell the rest of the story.

How long did it take to make the film?

Exported From Michigan took a little over three years to produce. Starting in February 2011 it took six months of pre-production, two years of production and eight months to edit. We are submitting to film festivals and screening the documentary in theaters starting in June 2014.

What was the inspiration for the title?

The title is a play on Chrysler's *Imported From Detroit* campaign. This is a positive film but from the mid 1970s through the 2008 auto bailout it's been clear Michigan needs to diversify its economy. There are thousands of companies in Michigan doing innovative things. *Exported From Michigan* is about the authentic hope and community they represent.



JON VANDER POL WITH SOLAR CAR ✦ PETOSKEY, MI

Who funded the production expenses for the movie?

During the entire three years of production Jon Vander Pol actively sought investors in the film. With the support of 17 individual investors, a Kickstarter campaign and a grant from the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) we were able to complete the film.

Who are some of the main characters and stories in the film?

ArtPrize, Earthwork Music, Urban Farms, U of M's Solar Car Team, Ford and GM's hybrid and electric cars, Energetx wind turbines, MOSAIC Youth Theater, Bob Lutz, Rick DeVos, Mayor George Heartwell, Bing Goei and many others.



GRAFFITI ON AN ABANDONED BUILDING ♦ DETROIT, MI



MICHIGAN SOLAR CAR TEAM ♦ AUSTRALIAN OUTBACK

When, where and how will people be able to see 'Exported From Michigan'?

There will be limited screenings of the film during the summer of 2014. We are submitting to film festivals looking for a distributor. DVD and digital distribution will be at that point only.

What were some of the most difficult obstacles in making the film?

In addition to fundraising, there was no shortage of difficulties. Production involved long days, no pay, sometimes sleeping on airport floors, or borrowing cars and calling in favors. It took a tremendous effort and it was all made possible by the help and support of the family, friends, investors, artists, musicians and filmmakers who worked as a team to complete this film.



WORLD SOLAR CHALLENGE FINISH ♦ ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA



WIND FARM ♦ LUDINGTON, MI



JON VANDER POL AND BOB LUTZ ✦ AUBURN HILLS, MI



JON VANDER POL ✦ DARWIN, AUSTRALIA

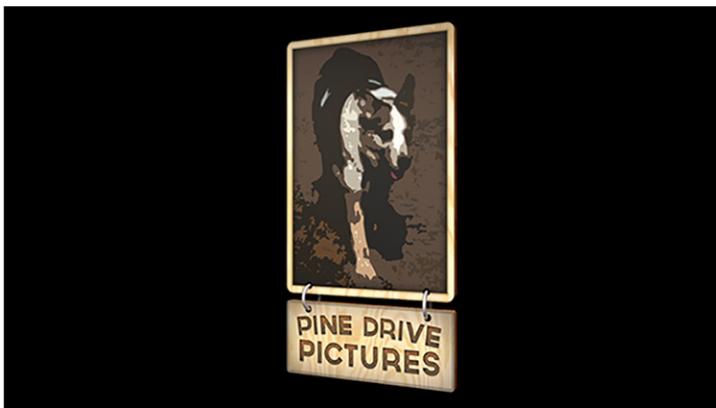
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CHRIS SELWOOD ✦ WORLD SOLAR CHALLENGE DIRECTOR



(L TO R) ISAIAH MURRAY, RICH MAYK, JON VANDER POL ✦ FORD



 **BOB LUTZ**
AUTO EXECUTIVE, VL AUTOMOTIVE



 **LARRY SANTOYO**
PERMACULTURIST, EARTHFLOW DESIGN WORKS



 **ELISSA HILLARY**
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LOCAL FIRST



 **GEORGE HEARTWELL**
MAYOR OF GRAND RAPIDS



 **TREMAINE PHILLIPS**
ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE TEAM INTERN, WHITE HOUSE



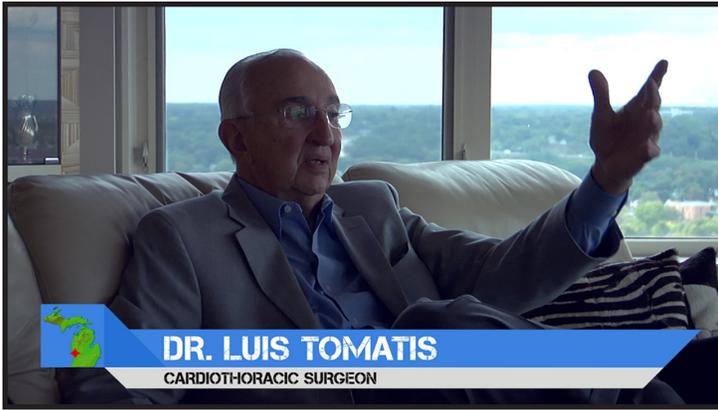
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PRESIDENT, ARTPRIZE / START GARDEN



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FOUNDER, MUSICIAN, EARTHWORK MUSIC COLLECTIVE



 **SHANE BERNARDO**
PERMACULTURIST, EARTHWORKS URBAN FARM



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GRETCHEN MINNHAAR

ARTIST AND ARCHITECT



GIL PORTALATIN

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PERMACULTURIST, GEORGIA ST. COMMUNITY GARDEN



LYNN HEEMSTRA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OUR COMMUNITIES CHILDREN



BING GOEI

OWNER, EASTERN FLORAL