

Three Stories, Three Continents, One Commitment to Change



# ELEMENTAL



[www.elementalthe film.com](http://www.elementalthe film.com)

# Press

*“Three environmental activists around the globe are profiled in ELEMENTAL and their efforts are duly inspiring and the related issues imposing... an interesting view of eco-warriors at work... Editing smoothly weaves between the three strands, with assembly polished in other departments as well, notably an expansive string-based original score.”*

**Dennis Harvey, VARIETY**

*“ELEMENTAL is a rare, fresh look at environmental issues and sustainability that does not shy away from the personal impact the decisions to dedicate one’s life to a cause entails... ELEMENTAL is fascinating... with alarming intimacy... director Emmanuel Vaughan-Lee ties these threads together masterfully.”*

**John Fink, THE FILM STAGE**

*“Beautifully shot, heartbreaking, informative, and compelling”*

**Joey Horan, OFF TO THE FILMS**

*“One of the top docs at Austin Film Festival”*

**Cristina Pena, AUSTIN AMERICAN STATESMAN**

*“Inspirational... The pro-active protagonists lift it from the muck of feel-bad documentaries.”*

**Joe Williams, ST. LOUIS POST DISPATCH**

*“One of the best 5 docs at Mill Valley Film Festival”*

**Jonathan Kiefer, SF MAGAZINE**

*“Truly moving and engaging...one of the better environmental documentaries out there.”*

**Nick Guzman, LOST IN REVIEWS**

# Synopsis

*Elemental* tells the story of three individuals united by their deep connection with nature and driven to confront some of the most pressing ecological challenges of our time.

The film follows Rajendra Singh, an Indian government official gone rogue, on a 40-day pilgrimage down India's once pristine Ganges river, now polluted and dying. Facing community opposition and personal doubts, Singh works to shut down factories, halt construction of dams, and rouse the Indian public to treat their sacred "Mother Ganga" with respect. Across the globe in northern Canada, Eriel Deranger mounts her own "David and Goliath" struggle against the world's largest industrial development, the Tar Sands, an oil deposit larger than the state of Florida. A young mother and native Denè, Deranger struggles with family challenges while campaigning tirelessly against the Tar Sands and its proposed 2,000-mile Keystone XL Pipeline, which are destroying Indigenous communities and threatening an entire continent. And in Australia, inventor and entrepreneur Jay Harman searches for investors willing to risk millions on his conviction that nature's own systems hold the key to our world's ecological problems. Harman finds his inspiration in the natural world's profound architecture and creates a revolutionary device that he believes can slow down global warming, but will it work?

Separated by continents yet sharing an unwavering commitment to protecting nature, the characters in this story are complex, flawed, postmodern heroes for whom stemming the tide of environmental destruction fades in and out of view – part mirage, part miracle.

***[Click here to watch the trailer](#)***

# Stills



# Filmmakers

## Gayatri Roshan

DIRECTOR / PRODUCER

Gayatri started her career in London where she produced over 50 television and radio commercial campaigns for Sony BMG, Universal Music, Virgin Music and numerous top bands, including Outkast and Pink. In 2005 she cofounded the Species Alliance, with whom she wrote and produced a documentary, *Call of Life*. In 2008/9 she wrote and produced *A Thousand Suns* (PBS) and *Peace Wanted Alive* (Link TV). In 2010, she completed work as producer and executive producer of *Harmony*, a feature length documentary inspired by and in collaboration with the Prince of Wales that aired for NBC's 2010 Green Week.

## Emmanuel Vaughan-Lee

DIRECTOR / PRODUCER / CO-COMPOSER

Emmanuel is a director, producer, musician and composer. In 2005 he founded the Global Oneness Project, a Webby Award-winning media platform and production company. He has directed and produced numerous award winning short films: *A Thousand Suns* (2009), *What Would it Look Like* (2009), *A Game for Life* (2008), *Barrio de Paz* (2007), *Seva Café* (2007) that have been widely distributed online and aired on PBS, LINK TV, and ABC Australia among others. Prior to his work in film Emmanuel performed and recorded as a sideman with some of the biggest names in Jazz and released two records under his own name, *Previous Misconceptions* (2002) and *Borrowed Time* (2005).

## **Pedro Kos**

### EDITOR

Pedro Kos is a Brazilian born director and editor living in Los Angeles. He edited the Academy Award nominated documentary *Wasteland* directed by Lucy Walker. The film received numerous awards including the audience awards at both the 2010 Sundance Film Festival and the Berlin Film Festival. Most recently Pedro edited the documentary *The Island President* directed by Jon Shenk, which won the documentary audience award at the 2011 Toronto Film Festival.

## **Emily Topper**

### DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Emily Topper earned her undergraduate degree in English Literature and Writing from Swarthmore College. She began film as an Associate Producer on such PBS documentaries as *Gay Bingo* (2000) and *Mural* (2001). In 2004, she earned her MFA from the Cinema School at USC and began working as a cinematographer. Recent work includes the music video, *Happy Birthday Guadalupe*, for the Killers, and a feature documentary, *Ain't in it for My Health: A Film about Levon Helm*, which premiered at SXSW in 2010. She is currently shooting a film in West Baltimore.

## **H. Scott Salinas**

### CO-COMPOSER

Scott is a graduate of Princeton University and Berklee College of Music where he studied jazz guitar, composition and film scoring. In 2002, Scott was the youngest composer to be named Grand Prize Winner in the Turner Classic Movies Young Film Composers Competition and was commissioned to compose several original scores to classic silent films such as *Laugh, Clown, Laugh* (1928) starring Lon Chaney and Loretta Young and the dark Parisian romance *The Red Lily* (1924). His most recent film work includes: all-time, most viewed film on Hulu, *Strictly Sexual*, the heart-wrenching HBO documentary, *The Kids Grow Up*, and the 2012 Sundance Film Festival favorite, *Hello I Must be Going*. He just completed work on HBO's new critically-acclaimed show *The Newsroom*.

# Credits

## **Cast**

Rajendra Singh  
Eriel Tchekwie Deranger  
Jay Harman  
Francesca Bertone  
Sue Deranger  
Kelsey Chapman  
Jaida Deranger  
Gitz 'Crazyboy' Deranger

## **Directed and Produced by**

Gayatri Roshan  
Emmanuel Vaughan-Lee

## **Written by**

Gayatri Roshan

## **Director of Photography**

Emily Topper

## **Edited by**

Pedro Kos

## **Music by**

H. Scott Salinas  
Emmanuel Vaughan-Lee

## **Co-Edited by**

Stephen Marshall  
Fernando Villena

## **2nd Unit Directors**

Stephen Marshall  
Pedro Kos

## **Associate Producers**

Elias Koch  
Ali Pflaum  
Nicole Sherwin

## **Additional Editing**

Tina Nguyen

## **Assistant Editors**

Trupti Karoor  
Elias Koch  
Chris Madera

## **HD Post Production**

ZAP Zoetrope Aubry Productions

## **Color Grading**

Leo Hallal

## **Orchestrator and Conductor**

Arturo Rodriguez

## **Music Scoring Mixer**

Casey Stone

## **Music Editor**

Kasia Middleton

## **Supervising Sound Editor**

D. Chris Smith

## **Dialog Editor**

Will Riley

## **Assistant Sound Editor**

D. Celene Lew

## **Re-Recording Mixers**

Steve Maslow  
Greg Orloff

## **Recordist**

Eric Harwood

# Tech Specs

## Running Time

93min

## Languages

English, Hindi (with English subtitles)

## Format

1.78:1, HD Video (Canon 5D Mark II)

## Sound

Dolby 5.1 Surround

# Contact Info

## Production Company

Go Project Films

info@goprojectfilms.com

www.goprojectfilms.com

+1.415.457.9447

## Festivals & Theatrical

Jeffrey Winter

The Film Collaborative

jeffrey@thefilmcollaborative.org

www.thefilmcollaborative.org

+1.323.207.8321

## World Broadcast Sales

Manoj Bhatnagar

Optimum Television

manojb@optimumtelevision.com

www.optimumtelevision.com

+44(0)1276.683.764

## Digital / Educational / Non-Theatrical

Blandine Mercier-McGovern

Cinema Guild

bmercier@cinemaguild.com

www.cinemaguild.com

+1.212.685.6242

## Media Inquires

Mickey Cottrell

Inclusive PR

mickey@inclusivepr.com

www.inclusivepr.com

+1.323.460.4111

**www.elementalthe film.com**