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NAOMI KLEIN

THE YES MEN

MARK ACHBAR

WHEN THE STORM FADES

*** REQUEST FOR DISTRIBUTION PARTNERSHIP ***

**"WOW. THAT'S A BEAUTIFUL FILM
NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT."**

OSCAR® WINNER

Adam McKay
Vice, The Big Short

**WINNER
BEST DIRECTOR / JURY PRIZE**



PRESENTED BY:



DIRECTORS GUILD OF CANADA
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2018

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42A SÃO PAULO
INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL

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40TH CAIRO
INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL



Conseil des arts
du Canada

Canada Council
for the Arts

**TELEFILM
CANADA**

EARLY PRAISE FOR **WHEN THE STORM FADES**

“An uncomfortable and unforgettable window into the disaster Filipinos call Typhoon Yolanda - and the impact of the West both at its root and in its aftermath.”

- The Globe and Mail

“Beautiful, breathtaking... hilarious.” - VICE

“Powerhouse.” - The Georgia Straight (Cover story)

“A true and genuine gem.” - The Tyee

“Audacious authenticity.” - The Vancouver Courier

“A beautiful and totally original climate film. Unique, powerful, lovely, funny, heartbreaking and true.”

- Naomi Klein

“The winning film walks a delicate line between comedy and tragedy, the two things so closely intermingled that it is sometimes hard to differentiate where one leaves off and the other begins. The long-term impact of climate change, as well as the human cost incurred is made not only visible, but also deeply felt. The film is consistently surprising, filled with humour, pathos, and staggeringly beautiful imagery. A true labour of love, this documentary hybrid balances the resolute delicacy of an Ozu film, with a loose tone poem of improvisation, the result is both rigorous and free, and grounded in resonant humanity.”

Jury Statement delivered by Director's Guild of Canada when presenting the award for Best Emerging Canadian Director at the 37th Vancouver International Film Festival.



BACKSTORY

Over a decade ago, I started working as a professional climate organizer for a large international non-profit based in Canada. Like most Western climate activism, our work was focused on trying to keep fossil fuels in the ground in order to mitigate the effects of climate change. I helped organize marches and federal lobbying. I supported the training of thousands of people for collective acts of civil disobedience and was arrested 6 times in 3 countries for direct action.

In 2011, Typhoon Sendong struck the Philippines the week before Christmas. My cousin Sheila's community - Cagayan De Oro - was devastated. My cousins saved their paraplegic Grandfather, Jon Jon, by hoisting him out of the rising flood onto the roof of his home using electrical extension cords. Everyone in my family survived, but 2546 people died in that storm. In the aftermath, the government decreed that the neighborhood where my cousin's family lived was now uninhabitable. They were never allowed to return to their home and lost all the money they had invested in buying the land and building their house.

While visiting my cousin I got to meet families that had been relocated to new housing built for storm survivors. I was stunned to find that the housing had been built by Shell Oil, one of the world's biggest climate culprits and a corporation I had spent years campaigning against. This experience left me wondering why I don't see Western climate organizations supporting the needs of those most impacted by climate change. As a result, I decided to start shifting my focus from attempts to mitigate future climate change to supporting the needs of those already enduring its destruction on the frontlines of the crisis.

ABOUT THE FILM

In 2013 Typhoon Haiyan made landfall as the strongest storm in recorded history. It decimated the island of Leyte where my Mother was born and raised. After the storm, I was invited to make a short documentary about the impacts of the storm by a coalition of storm survivors known as *The People Surge*. In making that documentary I met the Pablo family. They lived in the neighborhood of Anibong which was completely demolished by the superstorm and is one of the poorest communities in the Philippines. I spent the next 4 years making *When The Storm Fades* with The Pablos and a pair of Canadian comedians. It's a feature film about the lingering impacts of the storm. It stars real Typhoon Haiyan survivors re-enacting some of their experiences in the aftermath of the storm. It was produced with the support of The Canada Council for the Arts, Telefilm Canada and an international crowdfunding campaign. The film was an income generating project for the Pablo family and has helped them finish rebuilding their home and pay for their children's education. Since the film made its festival debut in the fall of 2018 it has gone on to win numerous awards while receiving critical acclaim at over a dozen film festivals in India, Greece, Spain, England, Nigeria, Egypt, Brazil, and Canada. Our festival tour will continue until the fall of 2019.

However, this film was not made for plaudits, it was made to help concretely improve the quality of life for vulnerable families living on the frontlines of the climate crisis. That's why we've decided to dovetail the worldwide release of the film with a crowdfunding campaign to support the people of Anibong.





A COMMUNITY FACING A NEW DISASTER

Thousands of people in Anibong who survived Typhoon Haiyan are now facing a fate similar to my cousin's. They are being evicted as the government decrees their neighbourhood uninhabitable. The community where we made this film is literally being erased off the map. Without financial support most of these families will not be able to afford to move to the new housing developments they've been assigned. After spending 5 years recovering from a climate disaster, their homes are being bulldozed and these families are facing homelessness and a grim prospects.

However, with the international release of *When The Storm Fades* we have a unique opportunity to help an entire community endure the catastrophic long-term impacts of a climate disaster. We're working with Marissa Cabaljao, a lead organizer and spokesperson for The People Surge. Marissa had a small role in our film and consulted on the script during the film's inception. Together we've spent early 2019 conducting extensive, house to house, in person consultations to assess the needs of the families facing eviction. An entire family can be safely relocated to new housing for approximately \$2500 USD. For roughly \$300,000 USD, this entire community could be relocated, radically changing what the future holds for these families.

THE IMPACT WE CAN MAKE TOGETHER

Hollywood films like to brag about how many cineplex screens they open on, but, our film is different. Our film's release will be promoted through a series of screenings in communities harshly impacted by climate change. From communities stricken by wildfires in Greece, towns facing drought in Brazil - we're already building a coalition of partners who want to screen this film on the varied frontlines of the climate crisis. In the fall of 2019 we will bring Marissa Cabaljao to North America for a speaking tour and series of screenings in large cities. These events will occur in the lead up to the international release of the film on November 8th, 2019 - the 6 year anniversary of the storm. The film's release will be accompanied by a set of online tools to help supporters host decentralized local screenings. We're already fielding requests to host screenings all over the world, from living rooms to public libraries. In conjunction with the release of the film we will launch a crowdfunding campaign to support the families of Anibong in securing new housing. The creative and technical team behind our film has worked on over a dozen successful crowdfunding campaigns in the past, helping raise over a million dollars for everything from refugee families, to electoral organizing and Indigenous legal battles. We're experts at impact storytelling and this will be our biggest passion project to date - but we can't do it without you.



In order to pull this off we're building a coalition of non-profit partners at the local, national and international level.

GREENPEACE



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people powered change

We're looking for organizations willing to do any of the following:



OUTREACH - Help inspire your supporters to host local screenings.



FUNDING - We need to raise \$21,000 USD to help us organize Marissa's speaking tour, support local screening hosts and to develop the digital tools and content for our crowdfunding campaign (including new video content that centers the stories of the families facing eviction in Anibong). We've already raised \$3,000 through crowdfunding and Powershift Canada 2019.



ORGANIZING - Donate in-kind capacity to help with organizing local screenings and Marissa's speaking tour.

CONTACT US - theimpactproducer@gmail.com