"A major contribution to indigenous cinematic storytelling."

Plastic Pollution • Sustainability • Cultural Identity

Chile/USA | 2018 | 76 mins

From Rapanui Native Director
SERGIO MATA'U RAPU
Log Line
In a cinematic letter to his son, native Rapanui (Easter Island) filmmaker Sergio Mata'u Rapu explores the modern dilemma of their people, descendants of the ancient statue builders, as they face the consequences of their rapidly developing home.

Synopsis
Native Rapanui (Easter Island) filmmaker Sergio Mata'u Rapu narrates to his son the modern dilemma of their people who risk losing everything to the globalizing effects of tourism. The film follows four islanders, descendants of the ancient statue builders, who are working to tackle the consequences of their rapidly developing home. Mama Piru leads recycling efforts to reduce trash, Mahani and Enrique use music to reunite their divided community, and Sergio Mata'u tries to understand the motivations of his father who embraces the advantages of building new businesses. These stories intertwine to reveal the complexities of development and the contradictions within us all as we are faced with hard choices about our planet’s future.

About Director Sergio Mata'u Rapu
Sergio Mata'u Rapu has spent the last 15 years producing documentaries, specials and series that have aired on History Channel, Travel Channel, Discovery, National Geographic, and PBS. He seeks to foster indigenous producers throughout Europe and the US. Through his work, Sergio aims to show the diversity of life through thought-provoking media to inspire resolutions to social, economic, and environmental conflicts.

About Writer/Producer Elena Rapu
Elena Rapu is an anthropologist and filmmaker. She received her MA in Anthropology from SUNY Binghamton, specializing in the Pacific. She has 15 years of experience on Easter Island working in archaeology, the hotel industry, and guiding tours. She is passionate about exploring the complex realities faced by living cultures as they grow and change in a globalized world.