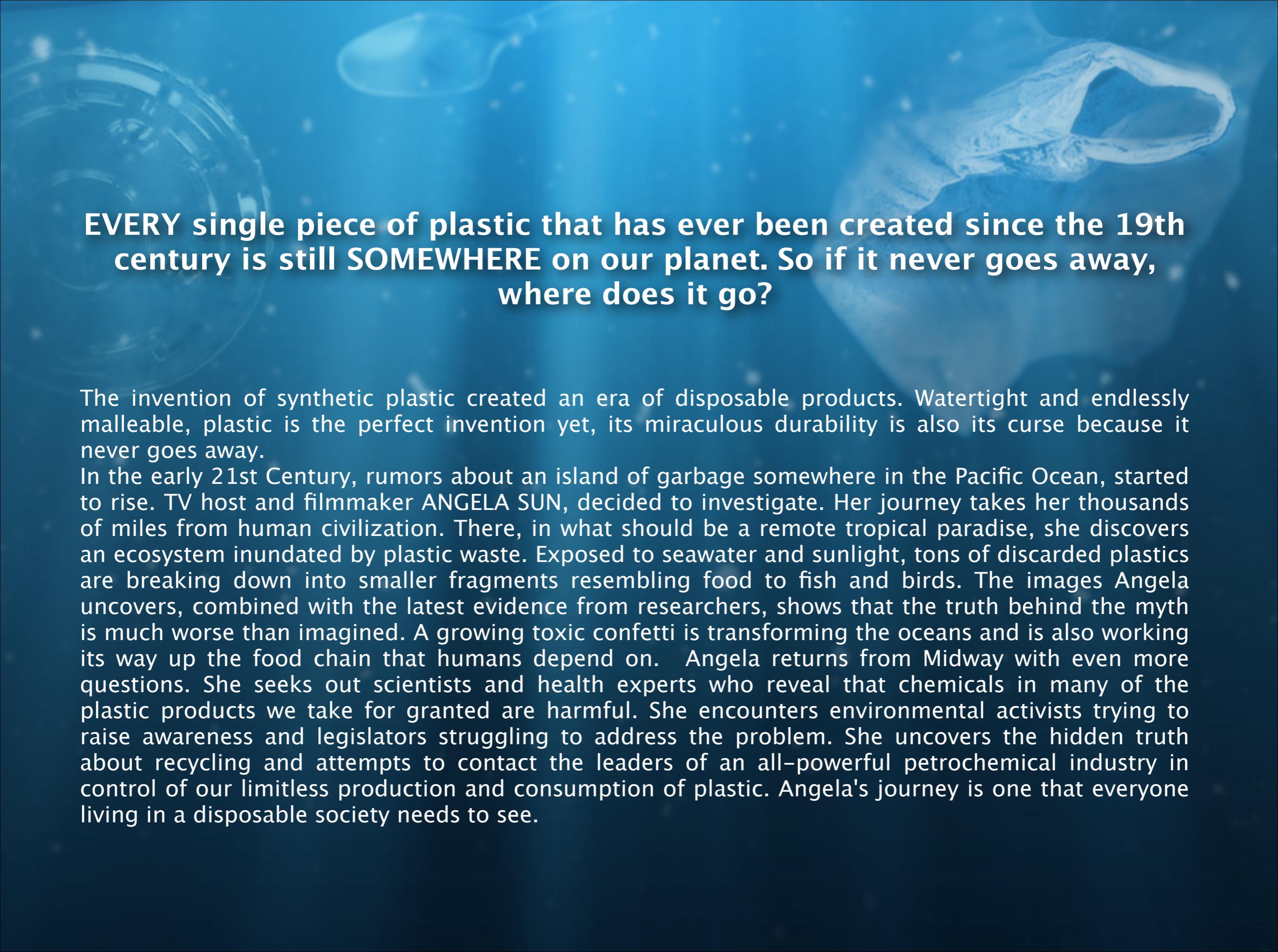


# PLASTIC PARADISE

THE GREAT PACIFIC GARBAGE PATCH



**EVERY single piece of plastic that has ever been created since the 19th century is still SOMEWHERE on our planet. So if it never goes away, where does it go?**

The invention of synthetic plastic created an era of disposable products. Watertight and endlessly malleable, plastic is the perfect invention yet, its miraculous durability is also its curse because it never goes away.

In the early 21st Century, rumors about an island of garbage somewhere in the Pacific Ocean, started to rise. TV host and filmmaker ANGELA SUN, decided to investigate. Her journey takes her thousands of miles from human civilization. There, in what should be a remote tropical paradise, she discovers an ecosystem inundated by plastic waste. Exposed to seawater and sunlight, tons of discarded plastics are breaking down into smaller fragments resembling food to fish and birds. The images Angela uncovers, combined with the latest evidence from researchers, shows that the truth behind the myth is much worse than imagined. A growing toxic confetti is transforming the oceans and is also working its way up the food chain that humans depend on. Angela returns from Midway with even more questions. She seeks out scientists and health experts who reveal that chemicals in many of the plastic products we take for granted are harmful. She encounters environmental activists trying to raise awareness and legislators struggling to address the problem. She uncovers the hidden truth about recycling and attempts to contact the leaders of an all-powerful petrochemical industry in control of our limitless production and consumption of plastic. Angela's journey is one that everyone living in a disposable society needs to see.





## Director/Executive Producer Angela Sun

Award-winning television host/journalist Angela Sun's passion for storytelling and love for the oceans led to the creation of this ambitious project. A Bay Area Native, she is a graduate of UCLA and also studied abroad at the University of New South Wales in Sydney. Angela has conducted field research on the Great Barrier Reef while at UNSW, focusing on the study of reef sharks. A certified EcoDiver, she surveyed the coral reefs of the Andaman Sea as part of the Malibu Reef Check internship program. She serves on the board or advisors for Ocean Defender Hawaii. She has produced for MTV News, ProSeiben Network, and Current TV. As an on-camera host her diverse experience includes Fox Sports Net, ESPN, LXTV, Current TV, MTV, Tennis Channel, NBC's "American Ninja Warrior".

She is currently a host for Yahoo! Sports and the Los Angeles Dodgers. She speaks Mandarin Chinese, Spanish, and some German. On her down time she likes to run, watch the 49ers, and chase stories, sharks, sunsets, and surf. (not in any particular order)



## Director's Statement

I have always had a grand fascination and passionate curiosity for the oceans and everything in it, so this story was a natural progression for me. When a colleague and good friend of mine brought the Great Pacific Garbage Patch to my attention in 2006, I was immediately intrigued. After doing more research and learning that there was not much information about this topic I knew I had to tell this story. I was brought up in a household that used paper and plastic plates and cups during meals because it was more convenient. Trips to the McDonald's playgrounds and happy meals were staples on weekends. I loved adding my happy meal toy to the large collection of My Little Ponies and Polly Pockets, while my brother had his share of Legos, GI Joes, and Ninja Turtles.

Fast forward to 2009 when I finally made the trip out to Midway Atoll to explore this so-called "Great Pacific Garbage Patch". While walking through the visitor center filled with plastic artifacts, one piece in particular stood out to me. It was "Rocksteady" from the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles and I remember my brother used to play with it. I wondered, could this have been his? Washed ashore on this tiny atoll, thousands of miles away from where I grew up, this plastic figurine from the mid 1980s stood the test of time and weather and was now staring me in the face. I wondered the stories it could tell about its journey through the oceans currents to ultimately, in front of me 20 some years later. It was an eye opening experience of bittersweet nostalgia as I kept finding pieces of the past, and potentially MY past, all around this tiny speck of land in the middle of the vast ocean. From 35mm film caps, to a message in a bottle dated in 1999; It really brought this issue full circle for me. What we throw away, doesn't really ever go away.

But the story didn't stop there. I wanted to know the history of how we got to this point and how my trip to Midway was really going to affect me in my daily life. In making this film, we capture what is going on in some of the most remote parts of the earth and how mass consumption ultimately leads to this silent killer that is choking our ocean life and ultimately, ourselves. Rooted in a lot research and facts throughout many years, I hope that this film resonates with viewers and connects you with our world around us. We are all part of this story.

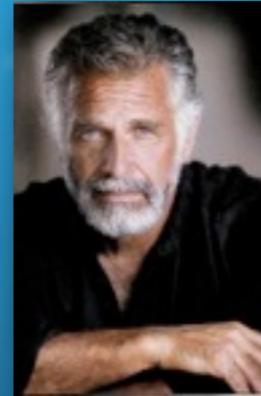
## Notable Experts and Personalities



Jack Johnson  
Award Winning  
Musician



Adam Carolla  
TV/Radio Personality



Jonathan Goldsmith  
The Most Interesting Man in the World,  
Dos Equis



Dave Rastovich  
Professional Surfer



Gretchen Bleiler  
Professional Snowboarder, Olympian



Jean-Michel Cousteau  
Ocean Conservationist, Ocean Futures Society



Peter Seligmann  
Co-Founder, Conservation International



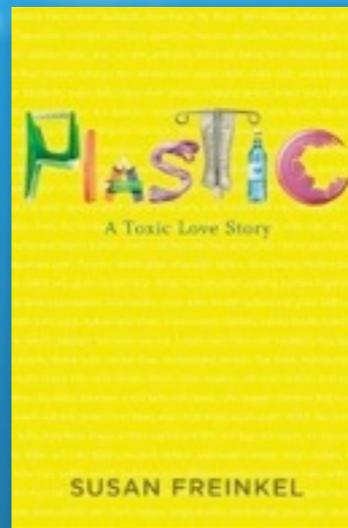
Captain Charles Moore  
Founder, Algalita Foundation



Gregor Hodgson, PhD  
Executive Director, Reef Check Organization



Dr. Marcus Eriksen and Anna Cummins  
Founders of 5 gyres Foundation



Susan Freinkel  
Author, Plastic: A Toxic Love Story



Andy Keller  
CEO/Founder, Chico Bag and The Bag Monster



Professor Fred Vom Saal  
Lead Scientist in BPA, University of Missouri



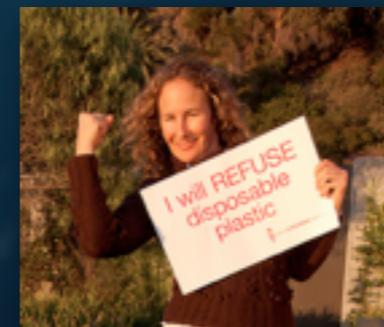
Jeanne Rizzo  
Executive Director, The Breast Cancer Fund



Wallace J Nichols, Phd  
Marine Biologist,  
Co Founder Ocean Revolution/Blue Marbles



Ben Lear  
Musician "Lillian: A Folk Opera"



Lisa Boyle and Dianna Cohen  
Founders, Plastic Pollution Coalition



Kitt Doucette  
Journalist, Rolling Stone

## PRODUCTION CREDITS

Executive Produced and Directed  
by:  
Angela Sun

Producer:  
Tanya Leal Soto

Executive Producers:  
Gil Elbaz  
Elyssa Elbaz  
Cathy Tsang  
David Tsang

Editor:  
Wendy Shuey

Graphics:  
Jonathan Jelkin

Cinematography by:  
Joseph Ochoa, Francisco Aliwalas,  
Mark Bella,

Original Music by:  
Jack Johnson, Scott Ohtoro, Ben  
Lear, Vanacore, Smidi Music, APM

Other Crew:  
Kevin Iwashina – Sales Agent  
Donaldson Calif and Associates –  
Production Attorney

## **FILM SPECIFICATIONS:**

Copyright Year: 2013  
Country of Production: United States  
Running Time: 57 minutes  
Exhibition Format: DVD, Blu-Ray, DCP  
Aspect Ratio: 16:9  
Shooting Format: HD  
Color, English, French Subtitles Available

## **UPCOMING FILM FESTIVALS**

Sonoma International Film Festival April 2014  
Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Fest June 2014

## **UPCOMING TUGG SCREENINGS VISIT**

<http://plasticparadisemovie.com/screening/>

## **AWARDS:**

2013

Gold Award Winner–California Film Awards  
Best Environmental Film–San Francisco Ocean Film Festival  
"Best of Fest" Award at Docuwest Film Festival  
Broadcast Award–American Conservation Film Festival  
California Film Awards: Gold Award Winner  
Best of Fest Award–Docuwest Film festival  
Isla Conservation Award–Catalina Film Festival

2014

Grand Jury Award–Wild and Scenic Film Festival

Official Selection: Festival TransAmeriques Montreal  
Official Selection: San Francisco Green Film Festival  
Official Selection: Savannah Ocean Film Festival  
Official Selection: Big Bear International Film Festival  
Official Selection: Hawaii International Film Festival  
Official Selection: San Diego Asian International Film Festival

## WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING:

"..intriguing..chilling film...journalist Angela Sun offers valuable new insights."--**The Hollywood Reporter**

"Sun offers a fresh, new voice for her generation and has made a film that can appeal to the masses"  
--**Honolulu Pulse**

"offers some alarming information that might cause viewers to think twice about buying one-time-use water bottles."--**The Boston Globe**

"Plastic Paradise is both an incredibly moving and a deeply disturbing look at where a great deal of our plastic waste ends up. Greatly harming our oceans, and killing and injuring countless marine creatures and seabirds. You MUST see it to believe it." **Ed Begley Jr**



**Al Gore** @algore

47m

Thoughtful new documentary by @sunnyangela examines the Great Pacific Garbage Patch @plasticpdise  
[plasticparadisemovie.com](http://plasticparadisemovie.com) #ppgp2

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# Contact Info:

Plastic Paradise, LLC  
1507 7th St #51  
Santa Monica CA 90401  
theplasticparadise@gmail.com  
website: [www.plasticparadisemovie.com](http://www.plasticparadisemovie.com)

ANGELA SUN | PRODUCER & DIRECTOR  
310.435.3715  
[angelasun@mac.com](mailto:angelasun@mac.com)

PREFERRED CONTENT  
Kevin Iwashina, Sales Agent  
323 782 9193  
[info@preferredcontent.net](mailto:info@preferredcontent.net)



#PPGP2

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