

THE NAKED OPTION

600 COURAGEOUS WOMEN
700 HOSTAGES
5 MILLION BARRELS OF OIL
1 UPRISING



a film by Candace Schermerhorn

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SHORT SYNOPSIS

THE NAKED OPTION reveals the inspiring story of an organized group of Nigerian women who use the threat of stripping naked in public, a serious cultural taboo, in their deadly struggle to hold the oil companies accountable to the communities in which they operate. The women, at the risk of being raped, beaten or killed, are trained and armed, but not with anything you can see. Through the leadership of the courageous, charismatic, and inexhaustible Emem J. Okon, these women are taking over where men have failed, peacefully transforming their ‘naked power’ into 21st century political action and mobilization.

THE NAKED OPTION celebrates the perseverance and power of an organized group of women!

LONG SYNOPSIS

THE NAKED OPTION

Written, Produced and Directed by Candace Schermerhorn



Fueled by the determination for a better future, grassroots women in Nigeria's Niger Delta use the threat of stripping naked in public, a serious cultural taboo, in their deadly struggle to hold the oil companies accountable to the communities in which they operate. The women, at the risk of being raped, beaten or killed, are trained and armed, but not with anything you can see. Through the leadership of the courageous, charismatic, and inexhaustible Emem J. Okon, these women are taking over where men have failed, peacefully transforming their ‘naked power’ into 21st century political action and mobilization. **THE NAKED OPTION: A LAST RESORT** celebrates the perseverance and power of an organized group of women!



“Our weapon is our nakedness.” Through the personal stories of Mama Bata, Aret Obobo and Lucky Ogodo, residents of Ugborodo and Amukpe, communities where oil giants Chevron and Shell operate, **THE NAKED OPTION** reveals the strength, the power, and the drive of the women to fight environmental ruin, loss of livelihoods, brutality, and corruption perpetrated by these corporate giants. Living in the only militarized zone in Nigeria and cemented firmly on the bottom rung of an already impoverished social and economic ladder, these women constantly struggle to maintain healthy, equitable, and self-sustaining livelihoods. We witness the hurdles that drive them to risk their lives taking over major oil-producing flow stations.



“We are the women who decided to take over the Chevron yard,” states 70-year-old Mama Bata, of Ugborodo. *“We’ll go naked. We’ll do our naked. Shell wants us to suffer and we’re not taking it. Fear will come”*, threatens Lucky Ogodo of Amukpe. Fed up with the oil giants dismissing their demands to clean up the environmental destruction and to provide jobs for their husbands, the women were pushed to the wall. With nothing to



lose they decided to risk everything and fight back using the lessons taught by their female ancestors. Stripping naked in public, a sacred weapon of last resort, has given them unprecedented power over both government and oil through landmark moments in Nigerian history. Their anger erupted July 8, 2002 when for ten days, 600 rural peasant women, ages 20 – 90, took over Chevron, the largest oil producing facility in Nigeria, which is the third largest oil supplier to the United States. Unarmed, they held 700 male workers hostage. The women blocked the flow of a half million barrels of oil a day by threatening to strip naked in public. Actual footage of events combines with first-hand accounts from Mama Bata, Lucky, and Aret who, in the summer of 2002, joined the wave of women’s uprisings that swept the Niger Delta. We discover how Emem Okon plays a crucial role in the women’s ability to negotiate with Chevron.



“Education doesn’t reduce the risks but it provides women with the skills and knowledge to confront that risk. It makes them bolder. In my organization, we don’t promote that option (of stripping naked) but if it gets to the point where stripping naked is the only way they can get government attention, we will not stop them.” Emem, founder of Kebetkache Women’s

Development and Resource Centre is championing a new vision for women and a safer way for their voices to be heard. Reaching across ethnic divides, she fights injustice with education, mobilization, and perseverance. Set against this backdrop, where government sends paramilitary soldiers to protect multinational oil companies from protesters, THE NAKED OPTION shows Emem as she travels to rural communities where women are prepared to use their weapon of last resort. Encouraging women to step up to decision making positions in government, she spearheads democracy and peace building trainings, teaches negotiating skills, and continually challenges the nexus of power created by the collusion of ‘Big Oil’ and a brutal Nigerian government through non-violence.



"Now, today a woman can be president. Before these workshops we had no thoughts. The only thing we knew was every morning carry your cassava, every morning go to your farm...but today with ‘the awareness’ in us most families are training their children,” says Stella Fyneface, Emem’s protégé. Dedicated leadership, a passion for

women’s rights, and new opportunities merge in THE NAKED OPTION as Emem passes the baton to hundreds of rural women, inspiring and mobilizing them to take charge of their futures, to stand up against injustice, and to become leaders.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

Caught by a newspaper article titled "Our weapon is our nakedness," director Candace Schermerhorn felt driven to examine the conditions under which a group of women on the Niger Delta would go to the extreme of removing their clothes publicly in order to preserve their community. The resultant film took eight years to complete.

Filming in the militarized zone of Nigeria poses significant risks. The film is shot guerilla in style, predominantly on the fly, using a handheld camera, natural light, and a limited crew of 1-2. The lack of electricity, inadequate lighting, constant noise, stifling heat, filthy air, and military presence are visual illustrations of the many physical constraints which are woven into the film to show the hurdles the women are up against. Deeply rooted in the point of view of Niger Delta women, the film delivers a fresh and dramatic perspective on the situation in the Niger Delta as it affects them. Footage shot by Sam Olukoya, a Nigerian

journalist, provides an intimate, candid, visual observation of the realities of daily life in these oil-soaked communities. The film is intercut with dramatic verité and archival footage; interviews with Nigerian activists, historians, and women's leaders; facts and figures to support material; unique, and artful recreation drawings depicting the historic Women's War of 1929 enhanced with After Effects to create dramatic stories. Graphics and animation transport us into the Niger Delta, and powerful, affecting still images and news headlines with graphic applications combine to bring the stories to life. **THE NAKED OPTION: A LAST RESORT** is an independent production.

The film highlights the power of women to effect positive change. Its core issues:

- Women's leadership
- Corporate responsibility
- Environmental justice
- Social justice
- Human rights
- Use of local cultural knowledge to effect change

THE PURPOSE

The purpose of **THE NAKED OPTION** is to bring attention to the importance of women's mobilization in the Niger Delta and to inspire women's leadership globally; to create market pressures by educating women and men to question corporate responsibility; and to promote community action on a local and international level where women and men take collective action to make unprecedented change in their own communities and beyond.

OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

In an effort to expand the impact of the film, the filmmaker is spearheading an outreach campaign to provide the tools and resources to promote women's leadership in orchestrating change through action, and to use the website to support women's leadership through digital social networking. We are currently working to partner with women's organizations to provide an action plan with four levels of participation including what viewers can do immediately; how viewers can help benefit the Niger Delta women directly; how women can educate and empower each other to take on leadership roles in their areas of interest with a special focus on politics and finance; providing the tools and resources for women to direct their investments to companies and organizations that operate responsibly in order to maintain the health and prosperity of people and the planet. For more information visit our website as we continue to build our coalition of support: www.nakedoptionmovie.com

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

"We found that women were paying a high price for the economic power that Nigeria was wielding, for the economic power that others were getting. So as we got into the areas of women's rights, environmental rights, children's rights....we realized they are all linked and you couldn't participate in one without participating in the others." Annkio Briggs, Agape Birthrights

As Malcolm Gladwell has said, "Activism that challenges the status quo—that attacks deeply rooted problems—is not for the faint of heart." Niger Delta women's stories are reflected in the news every day from the far-reaching impact that devastating environmental disasters like the spill in the Gulf of Mexico have on communities, to the endless corporate irresponsibility and greed that allows business as usual despite all costs. They're seen in the myriad human rights atrocities whether in political uprisings or in other places where oil is produced...be it Venezuela or Louisiana. But there is another movement cresting the horizon

and the Niger Delta women are already leading. It involves a growing number of women taking on leadership roles from managing households, to taking to the streets in protest, to being elected to political positions! It's an exciting wave of activism that invests in women and transformational change through their leadership, providing them with a powerful voice at the global, regional and local levels. **THE NAKED OPTION** tells some of these incredible stories of women taking the lead. It celebrates the power of an organized group of women.

WHAT SPARKED THE FILM?

-The Director's Note

I came across an article in a newspaper titled "Our Weapon is Our Nakedness" and it, of course, peaked my interest! My first thought was "what a great story about culture, about tradition and the roles of women especially in the way they lead this humanist movement." I was amazed by their power. I couldn't think of a comparable traditional "weapon" that we might use in the US to successfully shut down an oil facility for 10 days unarmed. I've thought about it for over 8 years and regardless of our education and any other blessings bestowed upon us, I still haven't come up with anything as powerful as an organized group of women.

On the first night in the Niger Delta I was watching TV and I saw an amazing ad for CARE. A woman emerged from a mist, walking towards the camera and as she approached a mass of women emerged behind her. On the screen it read "The world's most powerful untapped resource". I couldn't wait to get to work.

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After 6 months of trying to reach someone in Nigeria, Sam Olukoya finally answered my email. We planned a trip to the Niger Delta, doing as much preproduction as possible with very few resources. The first biggest hurdle was traveling in the Niger Delta with camera equipment. The Niger Delta is not a video culture where cameras are everywhere and tape stock is on store shelves. We had been forewarned about filming and the risks involved in traveling with and using video cameras in a militarized zone. We were also aware of the risks when telling the stories of the impact of oil production and the conditions of the people and the communities.

When we arrived at the airport in Lagos, we discovered that our bags had not made it from Frankfurt. At the exit there was a checkpoint where passengers were told to open their bags while a security guard rummaged through them. Suddenly the fact that our bags with our cameras and tapes were stuck in Frankfurt became a good thing. Foolishly, I thought this was a good sign and a fortunate beginning to our shoot.

But our first day on the road into the Niger Delta proved my wishful thinking wrong. We were stopped at roadside checkpoints so many times we lost track. We had AK47's pointed at us through the windows of the van. Our driver from Ghana provoked the Nigerian military who stood at these checkpoints asking for registration papers for anything from engine parts to hubcaps. Having defied a command to stop at a very specific point, the driver was pushed into the passenger seat when a can of mace was shoved through his window while threats of arrest were shouted from a very hot and very drunken officer.

Two stops later we were hijacked by a gang of machete wielding kids who immediately surrounded the van while throwing nail strips under each wheel as fast as they could. Tempers flew. Yelling and screaming demands ensued. However, with us we had the invincible Alice Ukoko, a Nigerian human rights activist, sitting now in the front seat where she met their shouts head on. Shouting at these rebels that this behavior is a result of the degradation of their lives resulting from the corruption and collusion of their government and the oil

companies, Alice shouted them down, shaming them, condemning their behavior and challenging them to rise up for the good of their communities, not themselves. After a serious emotional battle “the boys” retreated, wished us a safe journey and removed the nail strips.

No more than 5 minutes later, accused of a traffic violation, a policeman waved us over, got into our van while another yelled into the car through the passenger window. Another shouting match fired up. Again, Alice met the assaults head on only this time our volunteer passenger decided we were all under arrest and demanded the driver drive to the police station. Alice wasn’t having it. As the policeman yelled “turn left” Alice yelled “turn right.” Fortunately heavy traffic and a lot of confusion on the road didn’t allow us to move more than a few feet. Twenty minutes later, frustrated, the policeman slid open the door, got out and walked away through the tangle of cars. That was day 1 in the Niger Delta!

Sam kept telling us it wasn’t always like this...that this was an especially unusually bad day. However, we no sooner hit the road the next day when we found our van pulled over and emptied of equipment. We were accused of being spies.

So went the rest of this particular trip. Each day held its own close encounter. There were endless hurdles throughout production of this film...far too many to relive here. They followed us right through to delivery of the master tape. I had to tap into that endless stream of perseverance that flows from the women of the Niger Delta. I had to keep looking ahead and stay focused on the work at hand.... just like Emem Okon.

## APPEARING IN THE FILM



**Emem J. Okon**

**Executive Director and Founder -**

**[Kebetkache Women's Development and Resource Centre](#)** Emem J.

Okon is a women’s rights activist and leader. She received her B.Ed from the Faculty of Education of the University of Calabar and is the Programs Coordinator of Niger Delta Women for Justice (NDWJ). She

has received two awards in recognition of her contribution to women’s emancipation in the Niger Delta such as the Funmilayo Kuti Award for Women Emancipation by the Rivers State Branch of Civil Liberties Organisation and the prestigious “Woman of the Year 2002” Award of the American Biographical Institute (ABI). She was the State Secretary and later Coordinator of the Rivers State Branch of Women in Nigeria (WIN) from 1999-2001 and is currently the Zonal Coordinator, South-South of the Gender and Constitutional Reform Network. She is the founder and Executive Director of Kebetkache Women Development & Resource Centre whose mission is to promote the rights of women and develop their leadership potentials, and to mobilize for the promotion of social justice and democratic principles. Kebetkache applies a holistic approach to understanding of women's human rights, trying to intervene wherever women's human rights are being violated, denied or undermined.



**Annkio Briggs**

**Executive Director and Founder - Agape Birthrights**

Annkio Briggs, Ijaw – A daughter of a British mother and an Ijaw father, Ann spent most of her childhood in the Niger Delta, then moving to the UK as a teenager. Ann returned home to the Niger Delta in 1998 where she founded Agape Birthrights. *“When I came back to my community I could not recognize it. The school I went to in my community was a shambles. I found that the wells were polluted...we are surrounded by water and all the water was poison and you couldn’t drink it. There was no more development and the environment was totally devastated.”* Having lived in England and America it was clear to Ann what was happening. *“We found that women were paying a high*

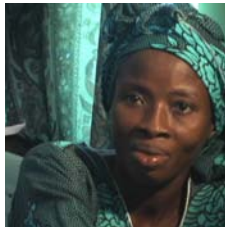
*price for the economic power that Nigeria was wielding, for the economic power that others were getting. So as we got into the areas of women's rights, environmental rights, children's rights....and then they are all linked and you couldn't participate in one without participating in the others. I woke up one morning and I became somebody who was in opposition... and I realized I was in a process of political opposition. Unfortunately, in the Nigerian system, it does not accept any form of opposition."*



**Dr. Owens Wiwa, MD**  
**Human Rights Activist**

Monday Owens Wiwa (born October 10, 1957 in Bori, Nigeria) is a medical doctor and human rights activist. He is the brother of executed Ogoni leader Ken Saro-Wiwa, and the son of Ogoni chief Jim Wiwa. Wiwa is an internationally renowned expert on the effects of globalization, especially as it relates to the highly controversial

business practices of Royal Dutch Shell in the Niger Delta. Vice chairman of the Toronto chapter of the Sierra Club Canada and an active member of Amnesty International, Wiwa is frequently called upon to advocate for development programs in Canada and abroad and to campaign for increased corporate responsibility. This work has taken him to Ireland, which he visits in support of the Shell to Sea campaign.



**Stella Fyneface**  
**Women's Rights Activist**

Stella Fyneface, Akwa Ibon – Living in fear of the police, the oil companies and the government, Stella was surprised and excited to learn that she and other women like her have basic human rights. Stella is a farmer and lives in Ubio, a small rural village north of Port Harcourt. She met Emem when she entered a “human rights office”. She'd been

upset because she had come to her farm on many occasions to find a line of her cassava plants brushed with red paint; or white arrows painted on the soil. There were also big machines parked on her crops and destroying her farm. In addition to these offenses, she found that the water in the near-by ponds was hot and the fish were dead because of the “*explosions and the heat from the fire that is floating morning to night*” (gas flares). “*If you take your problem to them (Emem and her colleagues) they will chase it out with flying colors....and you see that you are not intimidated, nobody will intimidate you.*” Emem fought for compensation for Stella and other farmers like her. Stella is now a women's leader in her community.

Attending Emem's training workshops, she travels to meetings where she learns more about her rights; she learns not to sell her children; how to deal with the police; how to fight the oil companies through educating women and political participation. “*I will go back to Ubio and gather 10-15 women and tell them I went to Port Harcourt today. I will tell them to send your children to school. It is left for me to go back to my community and tell them about unity. Without putting it into practice we will not have an effect. This is what we learn outside (in Port Harcourt) and tomorrow we hope to have a better Nigeria for women.*”



**Annie Porbeni**  
**Co-Founder - Niger Delta Women for Justice**

International Development - Mobilizing communities; Negotiating and conflict resolution; Coaching; Capacity building, Leadership and citizenship engagement, Adult Education and Community Development, Leadership Development; Training of Trainers; Development interventions in agriculture, and microenterprise; Critical Action Research, Guest speaker.

Non-profit Organizations - Staff supervision; Budgeting and finance; Grant writing and reporting; Program management; Technical writing; Advocacy; Networking with other agencies. Higher Education - Student Advising; Coaching; Research; Teaching; Curriculum

Development; Extension activities; Publishing articles in journals. Specialties: Training and Facilitation skills for adult learners; Addressing hunger and poverty; Developing new microcredit and savings loans programs; Corporate Social Responsibility and Ethics; Environmental Development, Sustainable Development and Capacity Building, Community Based Development in Africa; Agro-ecology and Sustainable Agriculture



**Oronto Douglas**  
**Human Rights Attorney**

Oronto Douglas is a leading human rights attorney in Nigeria, and served as one of the lawyers on the defense team for the Ogoni leader Ken Saro Wiwa, who was executed by Nigeria's military rulers in 1995. Douglas co- founded Africa's foremost environmental movement, the Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth Nigeria and has served in the board of several non profit organizations within and outside Nigeria. Though he has been arrested and tortured by successive military regimes, he continues to work for and speak out on issues of social justice in a corporate- military state. He was the first Niger Delta activist to be hosted by a serving American President – he presented the Niger-Delta struggle at the White House to President Bill Clinton. Douglas who advises the Nigerian Vice President on strategic issues of community and the environment, is a fellow of both the George Bell Institute (England) and the International Forum on Globalization (USA). Widely traveled, Douglas has presented papers in over 200 international conferences and has visited over 50 countries to speak and present on human rights and the environment. He is the author of several works including the ground breaking WHERE VULTURES FEAST, Shell and human rights in the Niger Delta which he co-authored with his friend Ike Okonta."

**Also appearing:**



**Damka Pueba**  
Nigeria Country representative at Stakeholder Democracy Network (SDN)



Professor E. J. Alagoa  
**Historian**



Dr. Mrs. Felicia Ihuoma Nwalutu  
**Historian**



Dr. David Okwidili  
**Historian**

## Community Members

Mr. Morris Asagba  
Felicia Asekoni  
Doris Atimi  
Aret Ododo  
Lucky Ogado

## ABOUT THE TEAM



### **Candace Schermerhorn**

Director/Producer/Writer

Candace Schermerhorn brings over 20 years of experience as a producer, director, writer, and project manager for films and projects from educational documentaries for Children's Television Workshop, *Sesame Street*, and PBS's *American Masters*. Her expertise lies primarily in first person narrative and historical documentaries as well as documentaries addressing contemporary issues. Her credits include work for *Children's Television Workshop*, *the National Park Service*, *Massachusetts Council for the Humanities*, *Harcourt Brace Publishers*, *American Masters*, and *Turner Broadcasting*. Her work for Harcourt Brace's "Meet The Author" series won Gold and Silver Hugos. Candace produced, directed, and wrote for Children's Television Workshops and for *Sesame Street*. Her 3-minute, live-action documentaries, sensitively focus on understanding children with differing abilities and how they are challenged and grow in their everyday lives. *YOU DON'T KNOW DICK* was Candace's first independent documentary film. It deals with the lives of 6 individuals struggling with gender identity. *Dick* has been approved for library distribution by the American Library Association and has won many international awards including National Educational Media Network's Golden Apple Award and a GLAAD nomination. In moving to the west coast, she had the invaluable opportunity to break out stories and scripts for academy awarding winning director John Schlesinger, a brilliant filmmaker and storyteller. Candace joined the Santa Barbara International Festival in 2001 as the documentary programmer. As Director of Programming over the last 6 years she championed diverse independent cinema from around the world, working from the premise that film offers as experience of disparate cultures, challenging stories, and an array of styles. She teaches documentary filmmaking at Santa Barbara City Collge. She is currently in preproduction of her third feature documentary, *THE JOURNEY TO HIGHER GROUND*, about the Lapita Navigators and the impact of rising sea levels.



### **Emma Morris**

Editor

Emma Joan Morris is an Emmy-Award-winning producer/director/editor whose work includes the feature documentary *Something Within Me*, winner of the Audience Award, Film Makers Trophy and a Special Grand Jury Award at the Sundance Film Festival. She was a co-editor of *Shut-Up and Sing*, a feature documentary on the music and politics of the Dixie Chicks. Her other editing credits include the Academy Award winning documentary *Close Harmony*, and *A Stitch for Time*, which received an Academy Award nomination. She has edited films for all of the major networks including HBO, PBS, A&E, CBS, ABC, NBC and Discovery Channel. In *Search of China*, her 90-minute special on the effects of the market economy on China aired nationally on PBS. She was the Supervising Editor on the full-length documentaries: *Doubletime*, *Leave No Soldier* and *Saint Misbehavin'*. *Voices of Sarafina!* which she co-directed and edited earned her an Emmy. Her other awards include: Sundance Audience Award, Sundance Filmmakers Trophy, Special Sundance Jury Award, News and Documentary Emmy Award, Christopher Award, Cine Golden Eagle, Golden Apple Award, IDA Distinguished Documentary Achievement Award.



### **Sam Olukoya**

Cinematographer/Co-Producer, Nigeria  
BBC Correspondent, Lagos, a degree in Mass Communication, University of Lagos, Nigeria; Masters in Environmental Science, Edinburgh University, UK. Currently reports for the BBC from Lagos; associate editor of Newswatch Magazine, Nigeria's oldest news magazine. He is a British

Chevening Scholar. Journalism awards: Crime Reporter of the year in 1993 - Nigeria Media Merit Award, Reporter of the Year in 1995 - Nigeria Media Merit Award. (story: the environmental problems confronting communities in the Niger Delta as a result of oil exploitation by western oil companies. Radio Reporter of the Year, 1999 - Diamond Award for Media Excellence.



### **Laura Karpman**

Original Music

Laura Karpman is a composer of who brings to her music impeccable musicianship, feverish imagination, intellectual rigor, complexity, versatility, unbridled joy, and fearlessness. She is in the words of George Mannahan, artistic director of New York City Opera, a rare combination of heart and groin. Her multi-faceted career reflects a strong devotion to music-making of all kinds, through the lense of an 21st century American composer: a rigorous musical approach combined with the most advanced, imaginative, forward-thinking technology. Four-time Emmy award winning composer Laura Karpman maintains a vibrant career in videogame, film, concert and theater music. Her distinguished credits include scoring Steven Spielberg's Emmy-winning 20-hour miniseries TAKEN for DreamWorks/Sci-Fi Channel. She received a 2005 Game Audio Network (GANG) award for her videogame music and a 2006 Annie Award nomination for best music in an animated feature. Her videogame music has been performed by orchestras internationally, including The National Symphony, El Paso Symphony, Metropole Orkest, Houston Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Spartanburg Philharmonic, Prague FILMharmonic Orchestra, Northwest Sinfonia, among others. Karpman's multimedia hybrid opera, ASK YOUR MAMA, premiered at Carnegie Hall in March 2009 with soprano Jessye Norman, The Roots and The Orchestra of St. Luke's, and in August 2009 at The Hollywood Bowl. Karpman's concert music awards include the Ives Fellowship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, ASCAP Foundation grants, Meet the Composer grants, residencies at Tanglewood, McDowell Colony, and The Sundance Institute. Karpman received her doctorate from Juilliard where she studied with Milton Babbitt. In addition to multiple film and television projects, she is currently working on a commission from the Los Angeles Opera. <http://www.laurakarpman.com/>



### **NNEKA**

Featured Vocalist

Born and raised in Warri, in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria, Nneka is a Nigerian/German hip hop/soul singer and songwriter. was a familiar voice and face in Lagos' top night spots and hotels, leading jazz, rock&roll, R&B and African "highlife" bands. A former model, she has graced the cover of Nigeria's Dressence and Hint magazines and was co-hostess of "Beat Wave" Music Show on the Edo State Broadcasting System in Benin City. In 1997 Nneka was nominated Nigeria's most promising female vocalist. Nneka's music has a big splash of Bob Marley in the recipe, a measure of Nina Simone and a lick of Erykah Badu.

<http://www.nnekaworld.com/us/home>

### **Ellen Finkelstein**

Second Editor

Eileen Finkelstein is a professional documentary and television editor in Los Angeles. She currently is editing on the Emmy award winning series, "Project Runway". Previous series she has worked on are: several seasons of MTV's flagship show "The Real World"; "The Academy: Inside the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Academy"; Emmy award winning "Starting Over"; and Morgan Spurlock's "30 Days". Among her feature length and hour long documentary credits are: 2nd editor for the HBO 6 time Emmy award winning, "Autism: The Musical: (including Best Documentary and Best Editing). She also edited the award winning "There but for the grace..." about the plight of family farmers in the U.S.; and "From There to Here", about musician and Interscope artist, John Oszaca. Eileen has edited a short experimental video about famed Japanese musician, Hirokazu Kosaka for feature director, Julian Goldberger and two music videos for artist Addi Somekh. Eileen has also lectured several times on film for the Boston Institute for Psychotherapy's Film Series.

### **Aaron Knapp**

Graphic Designer and Animator

Aaron is a freelance 2D and 3D Animator/Compositor based in Los Angeles.

[www.aaronknapp.tv](http://www.aaronknapp.tv)



### **Deja Hsu**

Illustrator

Her clients include: Miller-McCune (public policy/environmental magazine and website, Destination Wine Country Magazine, Discovery Life/Discovery Land Co., Vertical Living/CurtCo., California Guide/Sunset Co., Oceana Magazine & The Caneel Bay Registry/Destination Media, The Territory Ahead, and Isabella Bird catalogs. In addition to art direction and design, she is an illustrator and map maker whose work has appeared in ISLANDS, Caribbean Travel & Life magazines, and various business collateral projects. [www.surfviewdna.com/dejaHsu.html](http://www.surfviewdna.com/dejaHsu.html)

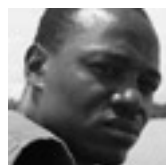


### **Fabio "Bobby" Nishimura**

Additional Editing, Additional Cinematography, Production Assistant

Bobby Nishimura holds a B.A in Cinematography from Art Center College of Design and an A.A. in Cinematography from Santa Barbara City College. With over 11 years of experience in the art and craft of storytelling, Filmmaking, Web Designer and Photographer, Bobby works professionally as a camera assistant and DP with productions of all sizes. <http://bobbynishimura.com/>

### **Additional Photography**



### **George Osodi**

Photographer

George Osodi works as a freelance photographer in the fields of photojournalism and artistic photo documentation. In the context of his work for local and international media from 1999 to 2008, his photographs were published, for example, in the New York Times, Time Magazine and Spiegel. In 2004, he was elected Fuji African Photojournalist of the Year. George Osodi's works, which often critically deal with his home country Nigeria, have already been displayed in numerous solo and group exhibitions including Intempéries (Sao Paulo 2009) and documenta 12 (Kassel 2007). George Osodi lives in Lagos and London. His image, *Mother and Child Dry Tapioca by a Gas Flare*, is featured on THE NAKED OPTION poster.

[www.georgeosodi.co.uk/](http://www.georgeosodi.co.uk/)



**Ed Kashi**

Photographer and videographer

Ed Kashi is an award-winning photojournalist dedicated to documenting the social and political issues that define our times. In addition to editorial assignments, filmmaking, and personal projects, Kashi is an educator who instructs and mentors students of photography, participates in forums, and lectures on photojournalism, documentary photography, and multimedia storytelling. A sensitive eye and an intimate relationship to his subjects are the signatures of his work. Kashi's complex imagery has been recognized for its compelling rendering of the human condition. <http://edkashistock.com/>

**CREDITS**

**The Naked Option: A Last Resort**

|                                      |                                                                                                                                      |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Writer, Producer, Director</b>    | Candace Schermerhorn                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Co-Producer/ Nigeria</b>          | Sam S. Olukoya                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Editor</b>                        | Emma Morris                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Music by</b>                      | Laura Karpman                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Featured Vocalist</b>             | Nneka                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Cinematographers</b>              | Sam S. Olukoya<br>Romuald Luyindula<br>Candace Schermerhorn                                                                          |
| <b>Editing/Story Consultants</b>     | Kate Amend<br>Curtis Bieber<br>Michael Colin<br>Bob Engelsiepen<br>Lisa Leeman<br>Victor Livingston<br>Anne Makepeace<br>Sandra Ruch |
| <b>Consulting Producer</b>           | Michael Fried                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Second Editor</b>                 | Eileen Finkelstein                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Additional Editing</b>            | Fabio "Bobby" Nishimura                                                                                                              |
| <b>Additional Cinematography</b>     | Fabio "Bobby" Nishimura<br>Eli Iskow<br>Michael Hartzel<br>David Ross Smith<br>Richard Stringer                                      |
| <b>Graphic Designer and Animator</b> | Aaron Knapp                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Women's War Illustrations</b>     | Deja Hsu                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Color Correction</b>              | Curtis Bieber                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Titles and Additional</b>         |                                                                                                                                      |

|                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>After Effects treatments</b>                       | William Conlin                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Photographs Courtesy of</b>                        | Ed Kashi ©<br>George Osodi<br>J. Timothy Hunt<br>AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS<br>Sam S. Olukoya<br>Friends of the Earth International                                                                                                 |
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| <b>Archival Newspaper Materials</b>                   | New York Daily News, L.P. used with<br>permission<br>Torstar Syndication Services<br>The New York Times<br>The Observer<br>BBC News<br>The Baltimore Sun<br>London Times<br>The Independent                                   |
| <b>Advisors</b>                                       | Dr. Herbert Cole<br>Dr. Michael Watts<br>Dr. Anna Zalik                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Research Consultants</b>                           | Dr. Sylvester Ogebechi<br>Dr. Blaine D. Pope                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Additional Research</b>                            | Betsy Cramer<br>Jody Nelson<br>Rad Schrieber                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Translation</b>                                    | John Ajao<br>Joseph Odiase<br>Dr. Salawu                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Production Assistant</b>                           | Fabio “Bobby” Nishimura                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Cupcake Campaign Coordinator</b>                   | Connie Boaitey                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Audio Post Production Services<br/>provided by</b> | Media City Sound                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Sound Designer/Mixer</b>                           | Sam Kaufmann                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Additional Vocalist</b>                            | Carmen Twillie                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Contributing Musicians</b>                         | Tim Kobza<br>Laura Karpman                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Score Production</b>                               | Nora Kroll-Rosenbaum<br>Laura Karpman                                                                                                                                                                                         |

**Good Life**

Performed by Blackface Naija feat. Seun Anikulapo Kutu  
Written by Augustine Ahmedu  
Published by Murder Riddims Publishing (BMI)  
Courtesy of Kussu Productions Inc.  
Under license from United Entertainment & Media Limited

**Udu**

Written and performed by Uru, produced by Sjoko at Tantrum Records

**Bravo to the Hero, Ken Saro-Wiwa**

Written and performed by Prince Bariture Goka-D  
Courtesy of Prince Bariture Goka-D, Ogoniland, Nigeria

**Legal Services**

Bob L. Johnson, Planet illogica

**Thank you for appearing**

Emem J. Okon  
Annkio OpurumBriggs  
Professor E. J. Alagoa  
Mr. Morris Asagba  
Felicia Asekoni  
Doris Atimi  
Comfort Avis  
Oronto Douglas  
Stella Fyneface  
Dr. Mrs. Felicia Ihuoma Nwalutu  
Aret Ododo  
Lucky Ogodo  
Dr. David Okwudili  
Annie Porbeni  
Dr. Owens Wiwa

**THANK YOU for the endless and generous support throughout the years**

Hun – the Rock  
Zoe, Adam, Dad, Mom, Deborah, Frank,  
Alyce, Jono, Olivia – the Foundation  
Paula MacPhee – the Guide

Deborah Ajao  
Seraphim Albrecht  
Victoria Amede  
Dr. Martha Anderson  
Nnimmo Bassey – Environmental Rights Action  
Chief Sam B  
Dr. Kum Kum Bhavnani  
Curtis Bieber  
Carrie Bieber  
Dr. Morton Beiser  
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Steve Kretzmann – Oil Change International  
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Thaddeus Taylor  
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Uru  
Janice Van Wagner  
Maria Wasserman  
Randy Tico – music for the trailer

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## **SPECS**

**Country of Origin:** US      Shot in Nigeria and the US

**Total Running Time** :64

**Aspect Ratio** 4:3

**Sound** Stereo

**Master** Digibeta/Stereo

HD/5:1

**Language** English and Pidgin

**Subtitles** English subtitles

**Color and B&W**

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