



impact OF THE FROLIC



OFFICIAL PRESS KIT

PRESS CONTACT:

BRIAN BRAZEAL | DIRECTOR OF THE ADVANCED LABORATORY FOR VISUAL ANTHROPOLOGY | BCBRAZEAL@CSUCHICO.EDU | 530.898.4094
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO | 400 WEST FIRST STREET, CHICO, CA 95929

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ALVA | ADVANCED
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VISUAL
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26 MINUTES
DOCUMENTARY
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CONTACTS

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

DR. BRIAN BRAZEAL

TEL: (530) 898-4094 | E-MAIL: BCBRAZEAL@CSUCHICO.EDU

DIRECTOR

MATTHEW RITENOUR

TEL: (850) 607-4230 | E-MAIL: MRITENOUR@MAIL.CSUCHICO.EDU

PRODUCER

DR. GEORGIA FOX

TEL: (530) 898-5583 | E-MAIL: GFOX@CSUCHICO.EDU

CONSULTANTS

VALENE L. SMITH MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY

TEL: (530) 898-5397 | E-MAIL: ANTHROMUSEUM@CSUCHICO.EDU

DR. THOMAS LAYTON

TEL: (408) 924-5710 | E-MAIL: THOMAS.LAYTON@SJSU.EDU

MAILING ADDRESS

**ANTHROPOLOGY DEPARTMENT
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, CHICO
400 WEST FIRST STREET
CHICO, CA 95929-400**

INTERNET

WWW.CSUCHICO.EDU/ALVA

As a filmmaker I can relate to Dr. Layton's quest to unveil the story of the Frolic shipwreck. When I was first asked by Georgia Fox and Tom Layton to direct this film I immediately felt the story had great cinematic potential and accepted the job. I understood the scientific and historical value of the story, but I quietly wondered what drove the men and women who pursue this intensive archaeological research as their life's work.

Telling this story took me and my crew to unexpected places. I found myself carrying oxygen tanks down the rugged Mendocino coast to supply a team of scuba divers, dodging the ocean spray aboard a 19th century ship as we filmed in the San Francisco Bay, and spending days pouring over a century of archival material in a maritime research center. The production introduced me to a vast array of characters whose stories all intersect with this single elusive shipwreck.

As I followed Tom through his research each step of the process felt like solving a riddle. It was captivating, that simple pleasure in finding things out, and I wanted to make the audience feel as captivated by each turn of the story as I was. I hope this film reveals some honest insight into the intricacies of archaeological research and inspires you to seek answers to whatever questions you may discover.



Matthew Ritenour
Director

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT





SYNOPSIS

Tagline

A Shipwreck that Transcends the World

Short Description

A handful of Chinese ceramics leads Dr. Thomas Layton on the investigation of a lifetime. The story he uncovered reveals vast cultural connections and a long forgotten shipwreck that impacted California forever.

Expanded Description

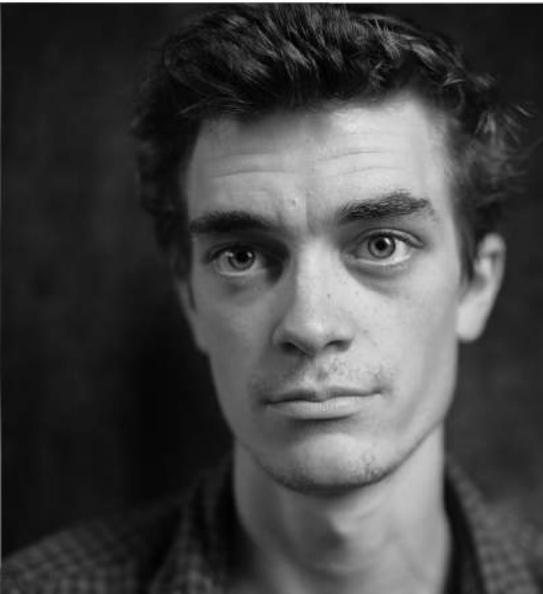
Impact of the Frolic is an award winning archaeological film that follows Dr. Thomas Layton's quest to uncover the origins of Chinese artifacts at a Native American site in Mendocino, California. Through his exciting research and the film's stunning visuals, viewers are taken on a journey connecting a mysterious shipwreck, Pomo Indians, Boston merchants, Chinese opium smugglers and Gold Rush California. These vast cultural connections impacted California forever, and discovering it all began with a handful of potsherds.



ARIK BORD

CINEMATOGRAPHY

A four-field anthropologist, Arik is constantly searching for new ways of incorporating the technological innovations of the 21st century to enhance the learning potential and quality of his research. He has participated in pioneering programs using 3-D technology and visual media to protect and learn from cultural resources.



MATTHEW RITENOUR

DIRECTOR

Matt's anthropological training brings a rare perspective to the craft of filmmaking. Blending the best documentary and cinematic storytelling techniques, his focus is sharing the results of anthropological research with the public. His films have won multiple awards, including a regional Emmy, and have been broadcast on PBS stations across the nation.



DAN BRUNS

EDITOR

Dan Bruns has over a decade of experience shooting and editing award-winning documentaries, commercials, and films. The only thing he loves more than a well-made story is a well-made cup of coffee.



TECHNICAL INFORMATION

“The sharp bow and dead rise of a Baltimore Clipper sacrificed carrying capacity for speed.”

Dr. Thomas Layton, “The Voyage of the Frolic”

Total Running Time - 26:46

MPAA - Not rated

Aspect Ratio - 16x9, pixel size 1920x1080p

Year - 2014

Website - <http://www.csuchico.edu/alva/projects/2013/impact-of-the-frolic.shtml>

Production Company - The CSU, Chico

Advanced Laboratory for Visual Anthropology

Television Standard - NTSC

Shooting Format - R3D

Sound Format - Stereo

Framerate - 23.976fps

Subtitles - English



IN THEIR OWN WORDS



“Standing on Three Chop Ridge in 1984 holding a few pieces of porcelain and green bottle glass, I had no idea that decades later I would still be researching their meaning. Nor could I have realized into what unfamiliar realms that research would draw me.”

THOMAS LAYTON
PROFESSOR EMERITUS
SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY



“San Francisco at the time of the Gold Rush was an incredible place. Perhaps this was the first time on the planet where so many people from so many cultures met each other in one spot.”

RICHARD EVERETT
**EXHIBITS CURATOR, SAN FRANCISCO
MARITIME NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK**



IN THEIR OWN WORDS



"Pomo is really a convenient fiction. Instead of that tribal map that everybody sees, native California has been a mosaic of hundreds of these little small communities that really saw themselves as independent."

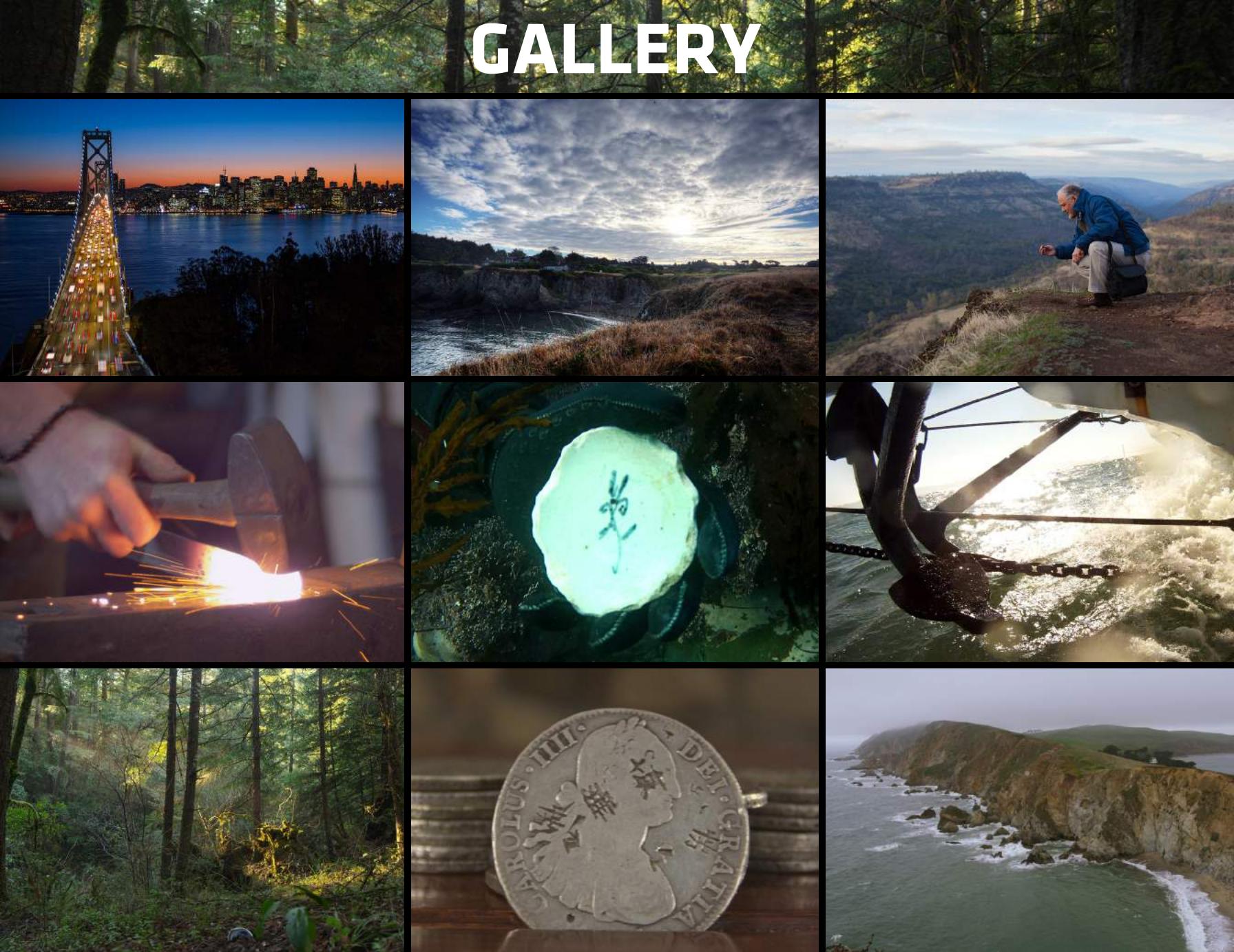
SHERRIE SMITH-FERRI
DRY CREEK POMO
BODEGA MIWOK



"One of the dives out there, my father had seen something that wasn't right, and on the way home he says 'There's rectangular shapes on the bottom and they shouldn't be there. I think we found a shipwreck.'"

JIM KENNON
WRECK DIVER

GALLERY





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AN ALVA PRODUCTION 2014

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