



ALEXANDER THE GRAND

EMERGING DIRECTOR SEEKS TO REVIVE FORGOTTEN LITHUANIAN MISSIONARY LEGEND IN THE AMAZON JUNGLE

An ambitious new generation, Lithuanian film director, Vytautas Puidokas after discovering a story about one of the greatest and most mysterious Lithuanian emigrant in Amazon jungle - Alexander Ferdinand Bendoraitis, become determined to turn it into a movie. One of the greatest and most mysterious Lithuanians in Latin American continent still adored and worshiped these days, even though almost two decades passed since his death. In Lithuania his personality is shrouded by silence and secrets ...

“It will be an international level Lithuanian documentary film, interesting to the whole world,” – working on the project for a year already the young director was sure about it. The film is scheduled to premiere at the end of 2016.



FILM CHARACTER - UNDESERVEDLY FORGOTTEN

A.F. Bendoraitis - had an extraordinary personality, however only few Lithuanians know his magnificent life story. He treated indigenous tribesmen living in remote areas of the jungle using boat-clinics; and he used his private airplane to quickly tend to epidemics. The jungle was at his feet – the tribes treated him as if he was the ‘White God’, while in the “civilized” world he was compared to Mother Theresa, Gandhi and Martin Luther King. He was blessed by the Pope, and was given the military rank of Captain by the President of Bolivia for his achievements.

The charismatic benefactor of Lithuanian origin spoke eight languages, collected millions for humanitarian purposes and was the only doctor in Western Amazon. His reputation was such that the locals would walk hundreds of kilometers seeking his help in case of illness, some of them dying on their way. He spent his life living on the edge: the missionary survived three murder attempts, defeated malaria seven times, and got shipwrecked just as many.

Despite all he had done, A. F Bendoraitis (September 9, 1919 – November 22, 1998) was not honored by a single street name in Brazil or Bolivia upon his death. The memorial that had been promised in Lithuania never saw daylight either.



PRODUCERS PROMISE TO REVIVE THE LEGEND

“The upcoming documentary film “Alexander the Grand” main goal is to return the name of the famous missionary to Lithuania, to resurrect forgotten Lithuanian people roots and invite the audience to balance between the greatness of human spirit and human hubris,” - says the film’s producer Paulius Juočeris. The movie is being produced by company “Ironcat” that is known for their feature length documentary project “Trispalvis” (Tricolour) directed by Vytautas V. Landsbergis and educational, historical, fiction film Knygnešys (Booksmuggler).



Everyone can contribute to the creation of this documentary film by supporting the crowd funding platform (even a symbolic sum makes a difference): [PRESS HERE](#) also you can have a sneak peak at the films trailer.

The project team invites audience to share any available information about A.F. Bendoraitis and spread the word about this project.

More information about the film: www.alexanderthegrand.com

For news on the production you can follow the film’s [Facebook account](#).

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