



### Heart of the Flames

After the fire, the heart still burns.

This episodic docuseries tells the heart story behind the eclectic and pioneering characters that played a role in fighting the Woolsey Fire and a community's rise from the ashes.

Many believe that during crisis, community falls apart and chaos ensues. What really happens is hearts rise to the fore, collaboration occurs and creative pioneering spirits emerge.

Following the stories of 18 local Malibu community members, this series is a love story born out of the pain of loss. Told through an episodic journey it intends to inspire hope through its authentic sharing on loss, love and the spirit of community that inspired them to BUlieve.



On the 9th of November, 2018, the world watched as a fire crossed the 101 Freeway in California, changing the lives of an entire community. The Woolsey Fire devastated western Malibu, levelling homes to ash, killing precious wildlife and displacing long-term residents in a way that challenged the community's core. Often misunderstood as being a wholly affluent demographic that would readily and easily recover from such devastation, to the contrary of media interest and focus, the underinsured and unable to rebuild were left homeless or displaced, unable to return. Told through many eyes, despite the tragedy of circumstances, the story that arose from the ashes is one community and the world's story. A microcosm of today's macro world now experiencing a global pandemic, it is a story about survival; about loss ... and gain; about what we truly value in life and how we come to appreciate that. It is a story about resilence, in body and belief, as reflected in nature where out of destruction comes rebirth. Most of all it is ...

a love story ... for a place called 'home' ... and a community of neighbors that came together to serve a common cause: each other.



"Heart of the Flames" celebrates the power of community.

## **Connection Matters**

#### Not to the internet, but to ourselves ... and each other.

We are living in times that both promote and threaten disconnection ... with our environment, ourselves and each other. We are living online in fear of being offline... or stepping out of line. Socially distanced, our voices shout through muffled masks, "I matter" and "Me Too" as disconnection grows ... and unity goes ...

... and with it, our power to unite.

Lest we forget the value of our respect for and connection with each other, Woolsey reminds:

"All we have is each other."

During the Woolsey fire in 2018 western Malibu went offline. No electricity, no running water and no access to supplies, there was no way in and no return if you went out. Firefighters were scarce, but there were a plethora of police with a policy of patrol and control. A community comprised of fame and fortune as well as ranchers, teachers, families, surfers and creatives, nature did not discriminate.

Everyone lost ... and everyone who lost felt lost.

Accustomed to natural disasters, but none to this scale, neighbors of differences, united as one. Bonded by their human journey, they remembered each other. Transcending all limitation, their pioneering spirit overcame adversity and restored all to new BUliefs and perspectives.

Off-grid but connected to each other, their power was restored.



#### The "Hearts of the Trees that Fell"

A 21 Mile Films production, "IBULIEVE: Heart of the Flames" is the collaboration of husband and wife duo, Alison Pothier and Jules Williams. Local to Malibu, the couple had purchased their home just one year before the Woolsey Fire devastated their community. On October 31st, just 9 days before the fire, Alison woke to a dream that said:

#### "These are FURBULENT times ... fuel injected turbulence."

The dream went on to speak of fire arriving in their back yard - so great that seemingly longstanding "trees" one would never expect to fall, would collapse as if pushed over by two fingers. It said that the couple would suffer damage, but through support would recover ... and that they had a role to play, "To take slivers of the hearts of the trees that fall." Assuming the dream to be a metaphor for difficult times in the world, when Woolsey arrived, the couple whose home was saved by their new neighbors, decided to revisit and follow the dream. Turning the camera on, they listened as they captured "slivers of the hearts of the trees that fell" ... their neighbor's hearts.

Initially anticipated to be a special short-form episode of their **IBULIEVE series**, the significance of each contributor's sharing guided differently. The story that serves many - through its authentic perspective on love and community - deserves to be wholly told.

www.IBULIEVE.com

## Alison Pothier

Filmmaker . Writer . Coach

Born and raised in Massachusetts, Alison lived in London, England for 20 years before moving to Malibu. Previously a COO and MD in Futures and Options in investment banking, she is now an executive coach, writer and filmmaker. Believing in the power of story to help people transform their worlds and the narratives that define their worlds, Alison collaborates with her husband to write, edit, film and produce inspirational story under their production company 21 Mile Films. Together they have produced a short-form episodic series and platform for a broader movement called "IBULIEVE".

As a transformational coach and intuitive, Alison's passion is to help others to write and rewrite the stories that shape their worlds "from the inside out". She set up "Inside Out Retreats" to offer training and development for personal evolution and was featured in the documentary "Choice Point" alongside world visionaries including Richard Bransdon, Jack Canfields, Barbara Marx hubbard and others.



# Jules Williams

Writer . Director . Filmmaker

Born and raised in Wales, UK, Jules is a lifelong intuitive who was a founding psychic on Sky Television's' 'Psychic TV' for six years. Transitioning from in front of the camera to behind the camera, he set up a production company in the UK wherein he wrote, directed and produced 35 episodes of a television series called "Living the Life" guiding pairs of well-known celebrities through a conversation about their life stories. Among others, Jules has directed Joanna Lumley, Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber, Lord Sebastian Coe, Elliott Gould, Sir Anthony Hopkins, Twiggy and Sir Alan Parker.

Moving to Malibu with his wife Alison in 2015, he brought his passion for filmmaking and human-centered storytelling to the screen with their on-going series, **I BULIEVE**.

Jules is also a published author, FAA licensed Drone pilot and cinematographer.

www.alisonpothier.com

www.juleswilliams.com



























