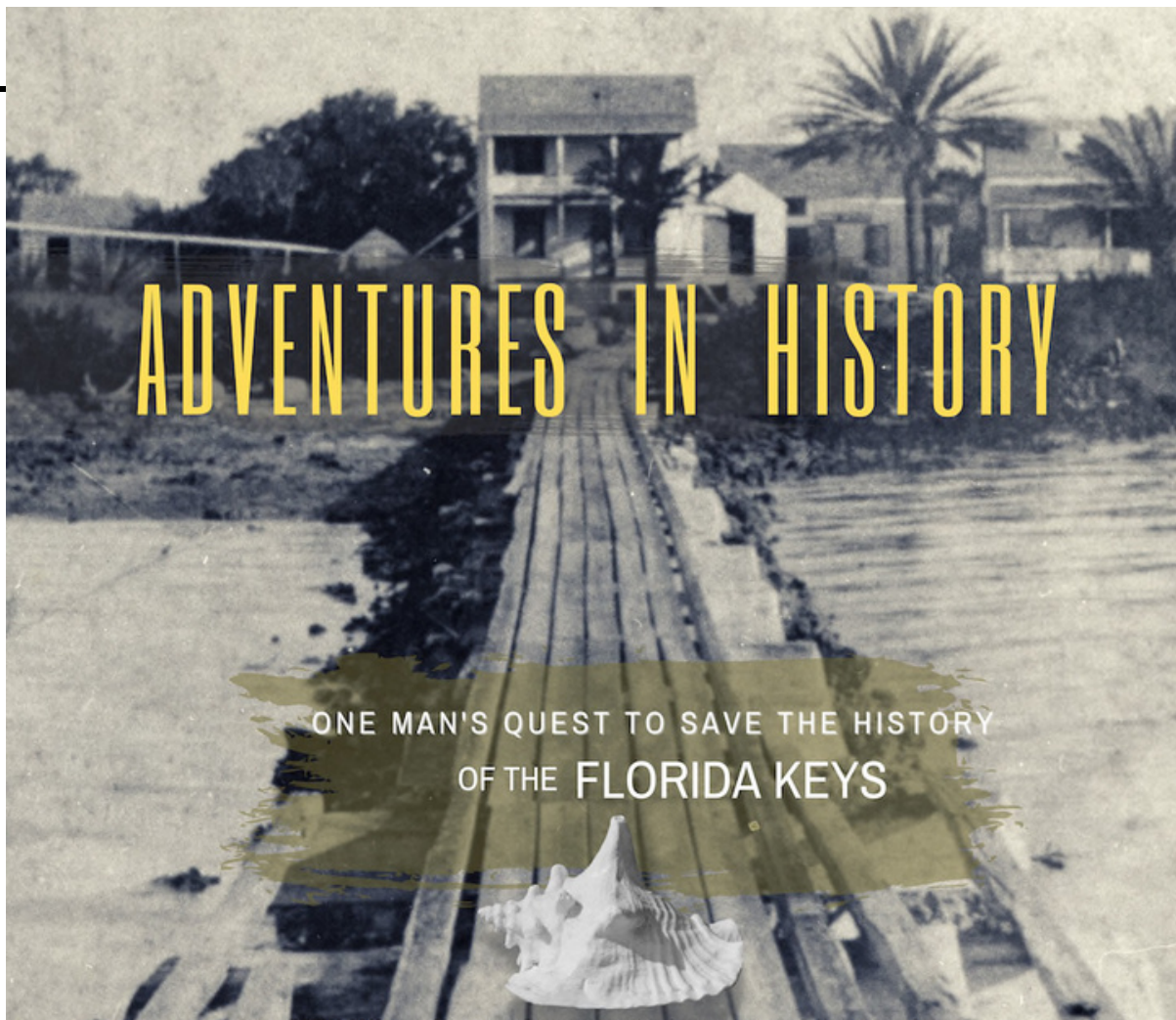


ADVENTURES IN HISTORY

ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT



A documentary short film about historian Jerry Wilkinson

TRAILER

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=04S7WQMWAQA&t=5s>

RUNNING TIME 19:36

LANGUAGE ENGLISH

WEBSITE

www.magicumquatproductions.com

POSTER

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1k4MrqJwcAIDwOhGaxC3Fo-ChMLE1huCu/view?usp=sharing>

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SHORT SYNOPSIS

Adventures in History is a documentary short film that reflects on the importance of unearthing history and the unlikely quest of a single man. Called "a national treasure" and a "Pied Piper of history," nonagenarian Jerry Wilkinson spent decades saving the history of the Florida Keys from being forgotten, and in the process became a local legend. With the participation of colleagues from Florida Keys museums and archives, and his wife Mary Lou, the film provides a look into the life of a singularly curious and charismatic adventurer.

Creator's Statement



Laura Albritton
Writer | Producer | Editor

I had the idea of making the film, *Adventures in History*, about historian and fourth-generation Floridian Jerry Wilkinson over 4 years ago. Jerry has spent decades unearthing and generously sharing Florida Keys history, which stretches back centuries. At the time, director and videographer J. Brian King was on board to get this local legend on camera for an extended interview. Then life – and Hurricane Irma – intervened.

Flash forward to late 2020. Our small team including director Brian descended on Key Largo, Islamorada, Marathon, and Key West in the Florida Keys to interview Jerry, Mary Lou, and five colleagues from historical

LONG SYNOPSIS

Adventures in History is a documentary short film that reflects on the importance of unearthing history and the unlikely quest of a single man. Interviewed not long before his 93rd birthday, Jerry Wilkinson recalls how he discovered the Florida Keys and set out to rescue its rich heritage before it could be forgotten. Joined by wife Mary Lou, he traveled the state for years as they hunted down elusive documents and clues. Not content to simply research, he shared what he discovered through hundreds of presentations,

historical reenactments, books, articles, film, and the internet. In the process, he became a local legend. With the participation of colleagues from Florida Keys museums and archives, the film provides a look into the life of a singularly curious and charismatic adventurer. It is also a bit of a love story. Created by Jerry's co-author, Laura Albritton, the documentary includes beautiful aerials of the islands, historic images, and stirring music.



Creator's Statement (continued)

museums and archives. One of the participants, Dr. Sally Bauer of the History of Diving Museum, declared Jerry “a national treasure...for the repository of history he has to share.”

We asked all the interview subjects not only about Jerry, but also, “Why does history matter?” We received really quite wonderful answers. It’s not that knowing history will prevent us from making mistakes, but it will allow us to understand ourselves. And as far Jerry Wilkinson is concerned, history is the very best teacher of all. We also discovered another theme while combing the footage, one which underlies the entirety of the film: how can a person live a rich life on his or her own terms?

Somewhat to our surprise, the finished film depicts a love story as well. Viewers will appreciate that being married to a person who follows an all-consuming passion is not necessarily easy, but can lead to the adventure of a life-time. Working together with director J. Brian King and engineer Zickie Allgrove, I believe we made a picture that reflects not only our passion for telling this tale but also the irrepressible spirit of Jerry Wilkinson himself.

Film stills (low resolution)

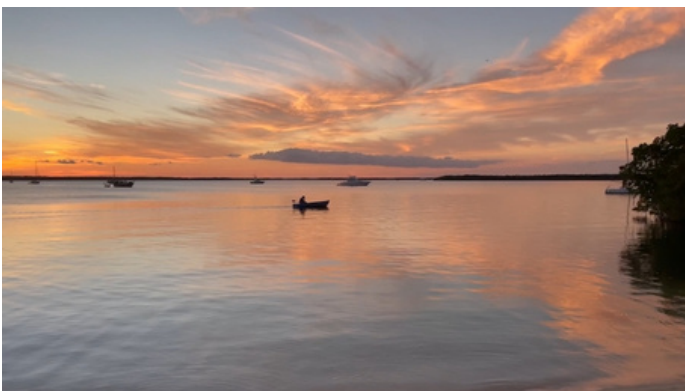
Link to [high resolution images](#)



Jerry & Mary Lou Wilkinson at home
in Key Largo



Early settlers in the Florida Keys



Sunset on Key Largo, home to Jerry Wilkinson



Dr. Sally Bauer of the History of Diving Museum
being interviewed

Film stills (low resolution)

Link to [high resolution images](#)



Director J. Brian King of Sun King Studio



Jerry Wilkinson in Key Largo



Opening credits for Adventures in History



En route to the Florida Keys

Crew bios

J. Brian King is the director of Adventures in History; he was also one of the editors. Brian directed the documentary Scornavacca (2014), on the life and work of Miami artist Tony Scornavacca. After graduating from Rochester Institute of Technology with a BFA in Photographic Illustration, Brian moved to New York City and assisted photographer Arnold Newman to learn more about environmental portraiture. He later returned to hometown Miami, Florida and opened up Sun King Studio in the heart of the advertising district on Coral Way. For over four decades he has delivered award-winning photographic excellence to the advertising community. His travels worldwide have taken him on location for clients as far away as Australia, New Zealand, South America, Europe, Egypt, the Caribbean, and South Africa. To this day, Brian's passion remains photography along with 4K video and Final Cut post production editing.



Adventures in History producer, writer, and editor Laura Albritton is part of Magic Kumquat Productions. She is the author of award-winning short stories and four books on south Florida history and travel, including *Hidden History of the Florida Keys* (The History Press, 2018). Her forthcoming book *Historic Lighthouses of the Florida Keys* will be out in Winter 2021/2022. Before attending graduate school, she worked for Vanguard Documentaries and distinguished Black film producer Charles Hobson in Manhattan. As an undergraduate at Columbia University, Laura studied Comparative Literature as well as American, Italian, and Latin American film. She currently serves as an adjunct faculty member at the University of Miami. She is a fifth generation Floridian.



J. Brian King, Laura Albritton & Zickie Allgrove



Adventures in History's stunning aerials and some of its B roll were shot by Zickie Allgrove of Magic Kumquat Productions. U.K. Chartered engineer and McGill alumnus Zickie Allgrove was born in Kingston, Jamaica and has lived in England, Quebec, Trinidad, and the United States. He is an FAA-licensed drone pilot and videographer who has shot for institutions in Florida and Georgia. He also edits in DaVinci Resolve. As Senior V.P. at a multinational, he has gained extensive experience in project development and financing in Latin America, Asia, Europe, and North America.

ADVENTURES IN HISTORY



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