

Help us start a global conversation by sharing the stories of gay surfers who live every day **OUT in the line-up**.



Uncovering the Taboo of Homosexuality in Surfing

PROJECT PRESENTATION



“TO LIVE YOUR DREAMS, YOU
CANNOT HIDE YOUR **TRUE SELF**”

David embarks on a journey to meet other gay surfers from Australia to Hawaii, Mexico, Ecuador and California

WHAT IS IT?

OUT in the line-up is a documentary that exposes the taboo subject of homosexuality in surfing.

It is a road movie that tells the stories of gay surfers from around the globe, exploring why surf culture has strayed from the sport's roots of freedom, openness and connection to nature. Stories of fear, isolation and self-doubt emerge as well as ones of self-empowerment and transformation, pointing to a future that is filled with both challenge and hope.

SYNOPSIS

After 20 year's of silence, former champion surfer David Wakefield feels ready to reveal a secret that could turn his life upside down. He is gay. At the same time, on the other side of the world, Thomas Castets is setting up the world's first online community for gay surfers. The two meet and for the first time David connects with someone who understands the burden he has carried for so long. Thomas encourages David to confront his fears of rejection and David comes out at the Sydney Mardi Gras parade, receiving some unexpected media attention. Despite mixed reactions

from friends and family, David is determined to honour his new commitment to openness and self-acceptance. He quits his job, packs up his house and joins Thomas on a global journey to meet other gay surfers and bring understanding to this issue, so others won't have to follow his path.

OUT in the line-up follows David and Thomas from the east coast of Australia to Hawaii, California, Mexico, and the Galapagos Islands as they meet and surf with people from all corners of the surfing community: from an openly gay three-time

world champion, a big wave rider, and former US Congressman to everyday surfers, gay and straight. Throughout their travels David and Thomas hear stories of fear, isolation and self-doubt, but are also inspired by tales of hope, self-empowerment, and transformation. As their journey unfolds, David and Thomas hope to create a change in surf culture, looking to the sport's grass-roots values of freedom of spirit, open-mindedness and love for the ocean.

More info at:
outinthelineup.com

WHY ARE WE MAKING THIS FILM?

This film speaks to anyone who has ever felt like an outsider. It will particularly resonate with members of the gay community who have felt alienated by pressures to conform to the norm. The film facilitates a connection between the audience and its main characters through their shared experiences. Through the presentation of diverse personal stories from within the gay surfing community we show how reality can diminish prejudice and that in order to live your true passion, you cannot hide your true self.

This film will also bring a fresh and relevant viewpoint to the rapidly expanding platform of surf media geared towards the thoughtful exploration of surf culture. Such media celebrates the 'essence' of surfing but is also not afraid to explore some of the more complex issues facing the culture. In keeping with this style, our creative approach combines candid interviews with dynamic travel and surf sequences, all driven by an engaging and emotive soundtrack.

Our vision is to affect change in regard to non-acceptance in surf culture and the wider community. Extensive and targeted distribution is integral to this vision. We seek to connect people and encourage interaction through a wide release on the international film festival circuit. This will be followed by online, DVD and educational releases, as well as an approach to targeted Australian and international broadcasters. Screenings will also encourage further interaction via the film's online community.



WHO ARE WE?

We are a network of creative professionals pooling our resources and volunteering our time to make a high quality documentary that tells a story we feel needs to be told. We have formed *Yellow Dot Productions* to produce the project. Our team comprises gay and straight members, surfers and non-surfers alike. We are united by our desire to tackle non-acceptance in our communities. Bios for key crew members are available at YellowDotProductions.com

WHAT HAVE WE DONE SO FAR?

OUT in the line-up commenced production in March 2012. It has been shot over the course of a year in surfing communities around the world including Sydney, Byron Bay, the Gold Coast, Hawaii, California, Mexico, Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands.

Interviews have been shot with several professional surfers (past and present, gay and straight) including three-time Women's World Longboard Champion Cori Schumacher, two-time World Champion Tom Carroll, big-wave rider Keala Kennelly, and former US pro Robbins Thompson.

Additional interviews have been conducted with several commentators including, former US Congressman Barney Frank and his husband, surfer Jim Ready, Australian surf icon Nell Schofield, journalists Fred Pawle and Stuart Nettle, Association of Surfing Professionals (ASP) spokesman Dave Prodan and academic-author Clifton Evers. Importantly, we have also followed the stories of everyday surfers from varying locations and

backgrounds, including the tragic story of a gay surfer who recently committed suicide in Sydney.

We are currently half way through a ten week edit, aiming to premiere the film on the international festival circuit in early 2014. We will follow with an online, DVD and educational release as well as seeking broadcast deals in Australia, the US, UK and South America.



View a 3 minute teaser at www.outinthelineup.com

WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

An exciting opportunity exists for you to partner with us in confronting non-acceptance and helping shape a vibrant future for the sport of surfing. We feel you can play a key part in ensuring the film's completion and widest possible reach while also benefiting from outstanding promotional and commercial opportunities. Please get in contact as we'd be excited to discuss how we can work together.



CONTACT US

For all enquiries please contact Thomas Castets
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