

A SHORT DOCUMENTARY FILM ABOUT ONE WOMAN'S FIGHT IN THE MOST POLLUTED PLACE IN AMERICA!



TEXAS GOLD

CAROLYN M. SCOTT Producer and Director BIOGRAPHY

“We sit on the edge of a global ecological crisis, yet most Americans don’t know it!” says Carolyn Scott, emerging Bay Area filmmaker, environmentalist, activist, and educator behind the film *Texas Gold*. “This belief drove me to search for a film that frames the bigger picture on a global ecological perspective—I soon realized that the film I was searching for didn’t exist,” says Scott. After looking for filmmakers who were willing to make the documentary she envisioned, Scott realized that to get it made meant producing the film herself.

“I knew it would be a long road,” says Scott. “And it’s been one of the most incredible journeys I’ve ever taken.” Scott weaves her philosophy about filmmaking and environmentalism into the overall mission for her documentary series, *Quest To Save Turtle Island*; *Texas Gold* is her first film in the series.

“As an environmentalist I understood completely that I faced a wall of denial, indifference and fear on many fronts. My primary mission is to make a film that penetrates that wall in a way that moves people to action. The vision for *Texas Gold* was to make an intimate and emotional documentary that spoke to people on a personal level. *Texas Gold* is a film that demonstrates that one person can make a profound difference. “The short documentary reveals one such extraordinary individual in Diane Wilson,” says Scott.

Carolyn Scott came to documentary filmmaking from an accomplished career as an environmental educator and activist. A long-time San Francisco and Bay Area resident, she was exposed at an early age to the wonder and power of cinema by her parents who were in the music and film industry. Carolyn founded *The Asylum Theatre* during her high school years and won full scholarships to study theatre at the University of Denver and in London. She founded the *Living Puppet Theatre* with grants from the San Francisco Education Fund and studied documentary filmmaking at San Francisco State University as a graduate student.

Texas Gold launches Scott’s filmmaking career as an insightful story teller with a powerful improvisational directing style. “I believe Michael Moore got it right by taking us away from the ‘talking heads’ genre of documentary by plunging us head first into those deep waters of ‘in-the-moment’ discovery,” says Scott. “You aren’t just listening to

activist Diane Wilson recount her trials and tribulations in *Texas Gold*, you experience Diane Wilson putting her life on the line,” says Scott.

Texas Gold places you smack in the middle of lone fisherwoman Diane Wilson’s fight to stop the pollution generated by petro-chemical industry giants that have destroyed the heart and soul of her beloved Texas fishing town Lavaca Bay. Emotionally raw and spontaneous, you sit with Diane Wilson through a 30-day hunger strike, talk with her and Lucky Bucky, a former fisherman who is plagued with cancer, and rally with Diane the day she decides to bottle water from a local government designated Superfund (clean-up) Site and sell it back to the business men who created the murky polluted water—Texas Gold.

Conceived to be an eco-detective story with a fair amount of humor and a sense of adventure to Texas boot, Carolyn Scott has crafted her first film in the ambitious *Quest To Save Turtle Island* documentary series. The Quest series portrays the lives of twenty extraordinary women activists from around the world who work to find solutions for the global ecological crisis. Scott remains determined to complete the series within the next two years.

“Our research shows that women are leading the way in the movement to save our environment yet women leaders are rarely covered in the mainstream media,” says Scott. “We chose women for the Quest Series because they truly lead from the heart about the issues at hand.”

To Scott’s credit and persistence, she’s signed on some of the world’s most renown luminaries of the global environmental movement including Wangari Muta Maathai, 2004 Nobel Peace Prize Winner. Muta Maathai spearheaded the greenbelt movement in Kenya, Africa that resulted in the planting of more than 30 million trees over two decades. “Each remarkable woman in *Quest To Save Turtle Island* holds a piece of the complex puzzle for solving our global ecological crisis,” says Scott. “I truly believe that women represent the tipping point to change in restoring the planet.”

AWARDS and RECOGNITION:

TEXAS GOLD – Winner BEST DOCUMENTARY – New York City Short Film Festival 2005.
TEXAS GOLD – Official Selection BEST OF FEST – Palm Springs Int’l Film Festival of Shorts 05.

Roy W. Dean Writer’s Grant, 2003, *Quest To Save Turtle Island* Documentary Series
<http://www.fromtheheartproductions.com/grant-writing.shtml>

GRANTS:

Frederick E. Steck Family Foundation, Private Grant
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