

## Award Winning Director, Simon Obleščak, Sets to the Shining Sea for Latest Documentary Project

Karaka – Seed of Change [Indiegogo](#) Funding Campaign, aspiring to reach its goal of \$4,600 by Saturday November 10<sup>th</sup>

**Berlin, Germany, October 30, 2012** - *Karaka – The Seed of Change*, the third and most recent undertaking from award winning Slovenian Director and Producer, Simon Obleščak. Much like Obleščak's other productions, *Karaka* will once again follow the journey of a nomadic wanderer choosing to live outside the boundaries of societal acceptance. Since 2005 Tom Blancart and his girlfriend Kim have lived permanently on their 53 ft black steel ketch, *Karaka*, which they discovered off the coast of Hong Kong, bought for a mere dollar, and restored back to life with only their bare hands. Over the span of the next months, set on the tranquil Mexican seas, Obleščak will once again aim to capture the essence of a self-proclaimed outcast, and people with whom he has chosen to share his existence; discovering what it means to be a true cooperative community, reliant on only one another, and further exploring the altruistic idea of an idealistic life and lifestyle.

Why not live while alive? The idea of waiting for retirement, all the while maintaining a social standard of the white picket fence, 2.7 kids, and a flat screen, though ideal for some, for Tom, seemed complacent and empty. Life should be about seizing the opportunity to live, love, and learn about one's self and others. To fulfill this prophecy, *Karaka* acts as not only a vessel upon the sea, but as a sustainable non-profit cooperative, welcoming as crew, anybody with an open mind motivated enough to join the couple on their journey. The community is typically composed of a broad range of nomadic dreamers, musicians, philosophers, anarchists, wanderers, and assorted non-conforming individuals, in addition to less radical guests, should they desire a break from the everyday. People are welcome regardless of nationality, age, gender, worldview, background, or financial status; a positive attitude is the only requirement of *Karaka*.

It was this same energy, and utter enlightened spirit, that caught the interest of *Karaka* director, Simon Obleščak, who has on several occasions expressed his absolute certainty that he and Tom are destined to create this project together, just as Tom was destined to find *Karaka* off the shores of Hong Kong. Obleščak goes on to further explain his views on Tom and the project by saying, "I think what Tom is trying to do this with his group of sailors is to share something valuable and meaningful, something that changes their life. I guess you can call this group of people a tribe. I grew up in a socialistic system, and I am living now in a capitalistic one. I have first hand experience from both of them, and I can clearly see that neither is working. Of course there cannot be a perfect system, because humans are far from perfect. But I think that we need something new if we want to have some kind of a future as a civilization, or even as a species. Life prospers in diversity."

*Karaka – The Seed of Change*, and the idea of cooperative existence or tribal community is one that transcends centuries, and one that Daniel Quinn, author of popular novel turned Hollywood blockbuster *Ishmael*, touches on in *Beyond Civilization*. In this work, Quinn expands upon how tribal civilization is the only sustainable civilization thus far where as the tribe maintains a community by helping and relying on one another completely, much like the environment on *Karaka*. As Tom has taken many ideas from Quinn, the author has in turn become an avid supporter of the *Karaka* community and lifestyle, with positive mention of the documentary on his website [Ishmael.org](#).

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Director Simon Obleščak will be flying to La Paz, Mexico on November 20<sup>th</sup> from his home in Berlin, Germany to join Tom, Kim, and the Crew of Karaka for up to a month. Until such time, contributions to the project, which is still looking to reach its funding goal, can be made directly through the *Karaka – Seed of Change* [Indiegogo](#) webpage. Contributions will be gladly received in any denomination, and will go toward helping support such expenses as airline tickets, production equipment, and cost of living in Mexico during filming. The *Karaka – The Seed of Change* campaign will only receive funds if the set goal of \$4,600 is raised by **Saturday November 10<sup>th</sup>, at 11:59PM.**

#### **About the Director:**

Simon Obleščak was born in Slovenia, 1967. In 2001 he graduated in from the Ljubljana (Slovenia) Film Academy and has worked for Slovenian National Television as a TV director, in addition to working as independent director/producer for several years. In 2003 Obleščak Co-directed and co-produced the documentary film [AMIGO](#), which was selected as best Slovenian documentary of that same year, and received the award for "Artistic Achievement" at the international *Golden Knight Film Festival* in Kaluga, Russia. Obleščak also wrote and directed the documentary [BLUE IS THE SKY](#) for National Slovenian TV; the story of a man who lives a life outside the restraints of society high atop a mountain. In 2005 he moved to Berlin and started onionfilms with the purpose of creating, moving and thought-provoking documentary film, much like *Karaka – The Seed of Change*.

#### **Further Information and Contact:**

For more information on **contributing** to the **Karaka – The Seed of Change** [Indiegogo](#) funding campaign please visit: <http://www.indiegogo.com/karakatheseedofchange>

For more information on **Tom, Kim, and the Karaka community** please visit: <http://karaka.voila.net>

For more information on **Simon Obleščak** please visit: <http://www.onionfilms.de>

For more information on **Daniel Quinn** and his support of the **Karaka community** please visit: <http://www.ishmael.org/interaction/NewsAndInfo/detail.cfm?record=330>

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