



WAYFINDERS

WAVES WINDS & STARS



BISHOP MUSEUM

Produced by Bishop Museum in association with
1001 Stories and Polynesian Voyaging Society





Wayfinders: Waves Winds and Stars

The 5,000-year story of voyaging in the Pacific

Produced by
Bishop Museum

Sail on the deck of the voyaging canoe Hōkūle'a and explore traditional Polynesian navigation. Learn how to read the stars and interpret the winds and waves to navigate without modern instruments. This live-action film tells the story of the Polynesian Voyaging Society and the recovery of the nearly lost art and science of traditional, non-instrument navigation in Hawai'i and the Pacific.

Across the ocean, where the sky meets the sea, most people only saw the horizon. But, the wayfinder could see and feel far more.

Wayfinders tells the story of the spread of people out of Southeast Asia throughout the Pacific. They explored the islands and learned to move between them using only the signs of the natural world, including the stars. Eventually they reached Hawai'i and sailed vast distances. Around 600 years ago these long ocean voyages had all but stopped as the populations became self-sustaining. The navigational knowledge and skill faded from cultural memory.

The Polynesian Voyaging Society was founded by native Hawaiian artist Herb Kane, sailor Tommy Holmes, and anthropologist Ben Finney in 1973. They built a replica double-hulled wa'a (canoe) in the spirit of those used hundreds of years before. They intended to sail to Tahiti and back without modern navigation instruments. They named it Hōkūle'a after the star of joy, also known as Arcturus. Mau Piailug of Satawal, Micronesia, agreed to be their navigator. He recognized the traditional art of wayfinding was in danger of disappearing. In 1976, he successfully navigated Hōkūle'a from Hawai'i to Tahiti without using modern instruments.

A young Hawaiian named Nainoa Thompson was inspired by this accomplishment and convinced Mau to return to Hawai'i to share his wayfinding knowledge. Nainoa spent countless hours with Mau studying the movement of the stars and learning to read the waves. Mau shared with Nainoa his star compass based on the rising and setting stars in Micronesia. Nainoa adapted this to create his Hawaiian Star Compass that would work in any part of the Pacific. In 1980, Nainoa became the first Hawaiian in 600 years to navigate to Tahiti in the traditional way.



Later, University of Hawai'i scholars and the Polynesian Voyaging Society developed the Hawaiian Star Families. These families divide the sky into four segments connecting stars north to south. Three of the four can be seen throughout the night. By memorizing the stars in each family and their relation to each other, a navigator can find the positions of all the other stars, even when part of the sky is obscured. Over the next several decades, the Polynesian Voyaging Society sailed to all corners of the Polynesian Triangle, visiting Aoteroa (New Zealand) and Rapa Nui (Easter Island) and many other islands in between. Hōkūle'a's voyages renewed a sense of pride in the Hawaiian people and reconnected the islands and people of Polynesia.



The video stands on its own as a 25-minute show. Integrating four live, instructor-led elements (included in the script) can immerse the audience in an interactive learning experience. The first two live segments build to the third: a virtual trip from Hawai'i to Tahiti and back with the audience determining when they have returned to Hawai'i.

Wayfinders was produced in Hawai'i by Bishop Museum and 1001 Stories in collaboration with the Polynesian Voyaging Society.

Running time: **24:03** Year of production: **2014** Suitable for: **General public**
Information about: **Celestial navigation, Hawaiian and Polynesian history**

Public performance of this show requires the signing of a License Agreement.

Wayfinders					
MOVIE SIZE	RESOLUTION	1-YEAR LICENSE	PRODUCT CODE	10-YEAR LICENSE	PRODUCT CODE
SMALL/ MEDIUM	single channel, smaller than 2000 pixels	\$2,500	WYF-S1	\$7,500	WYF-S
LARGE/ X-LARGE	single channel, larger than 2000 pixels	\$4,000	WYF-L1	\$9,000	WYF-L
SLICED	multiple channels, pre-sliced	\$4,000	WYF-G1	\$9,000	WYF-G

PRICES INCLUDE encoding/formatting and slicing for most fulldome systems. Contact us for details.



LOCH NESS PRODUCTIONS P. O. BOX 924 NEDERLAND, COLORADO 80466 USA
Phone: +1 303 642 7250 Toll-free: 1-888-4-NESSIE
Email: info@lochnessproductions.com Web site: www.lochnessproductions.com

Revised 25 March 2023