

REMER VISION

Digital Video Productions

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DREAMS & RIVERS



Dreams & Rivers is a documentary about an Englishman, Jem Winston, who grew up in Southend, Essex, and left school at the age of sixteen to work as a London bank clerk. After several years working in the bank he realised that he wanted much more from life, so he picked up and left, spending the next six years travelling the world.

His travels brought him to the Caribbean Island of Dominica

(not the Dominican Republic). He immediately fell in love with the beauty and the tranquillity of the island; the dream of moving to Dominica and setting up a campsite was born.

Jem continued travelling, but his dream not only continued to grow stronger, it also developed from a simple idea of a campsite



to the more complex one of setting up a fully-sustainable eco-lodge that would run on both solar and hydro-electric power. He returned to England, determined to turn dream into reality.

As a means to pursuing his dream he worked around the clock as a registered London taxi driver in order

A Documentary



to earn enough money to buy land in Dominica. At the same time, he began to study ecology and sustainable living, taking workshops in solar and hydro power.

After several years Jem had saved enough money to purchase some land, and moved to Dominica to realise his dream. He purchased a 16-acre, overgrown banana field surrounded by three breathtaking rivers. Jem spent five months of hard work clearing the land with a cutlass, whilst living onsite in a tent. Eventually the land was ready for the laying of the infrastructure and the building of the eco-resort.

The beginning of the documentary briefly retraces Jem's steps, how he purchased the land, and began to realise his dream. It includes interviews with the people who watched the dream become a reality.

Today, Jem's tropical paradise – known as 3 Rivers Eco Lodge – is a beautiful and flourishing resort that has earned him several prestigious international awards. He is hounded by journalists who want to write about his story, and guests come and go all year round staying in the many different types of accommodations offered at 3 Rivers.



Jem is now considered a leading expert on renewable energy and several professors from American universities have been sending their students on field trips to 3 Rivers to learn from Jem, and to study the work that he is doing. The documentary features two different university groups that stayed at 3 Rivers, and interviews with the students and their professors.

But Dreams & Rivers is not a documentary about ecology or renewable energy, nor is it a travel documentary. The main focus of the film is how one man had a dream, and how the fulfilment of that dream has had, and continues to have, such a major affect on the local community, and ultimately upon the entire island. The film discusses how Jem and



his eco-lodge touches the lives of the local people, and how the guests at 3 Rivers are encouraged to interact with the locals and visit the village and the school. Everything works harmoniously, for the mutual benefit of the people of the island, the guests, and the environment.

The film captures the natural beauty of the island, and examines the local culture. We learn how Jem had to adapt to the values and the behaviour of the local community. The documentary examines some of the stumbling blocks that he came upon, and how he found solutions. In addition to this, the film includes the tragic episode of how Jem's father came to visit him at 3 Rivers and died suddenly



at the resort. Jem explains how the decision to bury his father at 3 Rivers was of great significance, since it reflected his decision that Dominica was now his home and he would never return to live in England. This tragic event also highlighted how close Jem had grown to his staff and the local community, since not only did they come to pay their respects, but they all united with him in his

grief. Jem now considers his staff to be his family, and 3 Rivers to be his home.

Dreams & Rivers is a fascinating, moving and warm-hearted documentary, which follows the story of a seemingly ordinary guy from Southend, Essex, to the exotic Caribbean island of Dominica where he has built a tropical paradise.



On the wings of determination there are no limits to how far a dream can be carried.

The film was made by Daniel Remer, an experienced British filmmaker, who graduated from The London International Film School in 1986.

Technical Information:

Camera: Sony HDV Z1E

Format: PAL HDV 1440 x1080

Intended Duration: 1 hour

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The Promo



The purpose of the Dreams & Rivers promo is to give a very brief account of Jem Winston's dream and his path to realising it. Included in the promo are a small number of interviews with a wide diversity of people involved in his story.

The promo briefly introduces the themes upon which the full-length documentary focuses and develops. Along with this, it introduces some of the characters, the environment and a feel for the setting.

However, the promo does not go into the depth and the detail that the full-length documentary will contain. There are also several important, additional interviews that will appear only in the full-length documentary, along with outstanding shots of the natural beauty of the island, and breathtaking aerial footage, which is due to be shot in July.

Duration 12 minutes
DVD PAL