

# BLUE GOLD

## WORLD WATER WARS

A FILM BY SAM BOZZO      NARRATED BY MALCOLM MCDOWELL      EXECUTIVE PRODUCED BY  
MARK ACHBAR (THE CORPORATION) AND SI LITVINOFF (THE MAN WHO FELL TO EARTH)  
BASED ON THE GROUNDBREAKING BOOK BY MAUDE BARLOW AND TONY CLARKE



[www.bluegold-worldwaterwars.com](http://www.bluegold-worldwaterwars.com)

purpleturtl[e]films

## **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT**

*"In the science-fiction film THE MAN WHO FELL TO EARTH, David Bowie famously portrayed an alien from a planet running out of water. He left. We cannot. Ironically, it was while researching and writing a sequel to that film, where we imagined a futuristic earth itself running out of water, that my producer Si Litvinoff found the book **"Blue Gold: The Battle Against Corporate Theft of the World's Water."** I was horrified to discover that what was happening on our planet now was worse than what we were dreaming up for science-fiction.*

*I had a digital camera I won from Kevin Spacey in his short film contest. I found a sponsor to fund the film, so I purchased equipment, tickets, and hotel rooms with my credit cards. The night before I was to set out shooting, the sponsor backed out. I was about to wake my wife and tell her that I must quit and return my goods, but en route to our bedroom, our three-year old son Ethan stood in the hall, awoken from his sleep.*

*He said "I'm thirsty".*

*I fetched him a glass of water. I went to bed. I did not tell my wife about the financial situation. I awoke and set out traveling alone, a one-man crew, on an adventure that changed me forever.*

*While traveling, I quickly realized that when I wrote a screenplay, I had only to research facts from a distance, but to document these horrors on film, I had to go to the source. Doing so required me to bribe Mexican guards for a 20-minute window to shoot raw sewage irrigating the farmlands. It required*

*investigating the assassination of another documentary filmmaker trying to save African water from corporate Rose plantations. It required traveling deep into Africa, where women fetch water from miles away and white men are kidnapped almost as regularly. While riding there through an armed police check-point, I ducked to avoid detection so I would not have to bribe more police (my bribe fund was drying up quicker than earth's water supply). My guides yelled at me to sit up, to never duck! If the police saw a white man duck, they would assume he was a kidnap victim and simply gun down everyone in the car, hostage included.*

*Why take these risks? My conscious mind tells me I made this film for the general public, who do not know about this issue, and need to while there is time for change. My subconscious mind tells me I made it for my son. But deeper down still, I know I made it for one reason alone. As a society, it seems to me that our sole focus of environmental concern has become carbon gas emissions and Global Warming. But we will survive Global Warming. The world will be different, but we will be here.*

*I made this film because while Global Warming is an issue of 'how' we live, the water crisis is an issue of 'if' we live."*

*- Sam Bozzo*

## Blue Gold: World Water Wars

Genre: Documentary

Running Time: 90 minutes

**LOGLINE:** Global Warming is an issue of “how” we live, the water crisis is an issue of “if” we live.

Based on the ground-breaking book by Maude Barlow and Tony Clarke, Executive Produced by Mark Achbar (The Corporation) and Si Litvinoff (The Man Who Fell to Earth), narrated by Malcolm McDowell.

### SHORT SYNOPSIS:

Wars of the future will be fought over water, as they today over oil, as the source of all life enters the global marketplace and political arena. Corporate giants, private investors, and corrupt governments vie for control of our dwindling fresh water supply, prompting protests, lawsuits, and revolutions from citizens fighting for the right to survive. Past civilizations have collapsed from poor water management. Can the human race survive?

### LONG SYNOPSIS:

In every corner of the globe, we are polluting, diverting, pumping, and wasting our limited supply of fresh water at an expedient level as population and technology grows. The rampant over development of agriculture, housing and industry increase the demands for



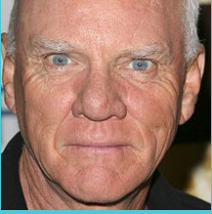
**“Sounds the same sweeping alarms as *Inconvenient Truth*, only about our dwindling water supplies.” - *Toronto Star***

fresh water well beyond the finite supply, resulting in the desertification of the earth.

Corporate giants force developing countries to privatize their water supply for profit. Wall Street investors target desalination and mass bulk water export schemes. Corrupt governments use water for economic and political gain. Military control of water emerges and a new geopolitical map and power structure forms, setting the stage for world water wars.

We follow numerous worldwide examples of people fighting for their basic right to water, from court cases to violent revolutions to U.N. conventions to revised constitutions to local protests at grade schools. As Maude Barlow proclaims, “This is our revolution, this is our war”. A line is crossed as water becomes a commodity. Will we survive?

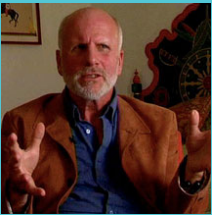
## CAST:



Narrator **MALCOLM MCDOWELL** is perhaps best known for starring as the infamous Alex DeLarge in Stanley Kubrick's controversial 'A Clockwork Orange'. Prior to this, he rose to stardom in Lindsay Anderson's two cult classics 'If...' and 'O Lucky Man!'. McDowell is currently featured in the hit TV series 'Heroes'.



**MAUDE BARLOW** is one of Canada's most outspoken social activists, the national chairperson of the Council of Canadians, and the founder of the Blue Planet Project working internationally for the right to water. Maude is the recipient of six honorary doctorates as well as the 2005 Right Livelihood Award (known as the "Alternative Nobel")



**TONY CLARKE** founded the Polaris Institute "for the purpose of unmasking the corporate power that lies behind government." Coauthor of "Blue Gold", he chaired the Action Canada Network (ACN), the largest coalition of civil society organizations and labour unions ever assembled in Canada to mobilise opposition to the free trade agenda.



**WENONAH HAUSER** is the executive director of Food & Water Watch. She has worked extensively on energy, food, water and environmental issues at the national, state and local level. Experienced in developing policy positions and legislative strategies, she is also a skilled and accomplished organizer, having lobbied and developed grass roots action plans.



**VANDANA SHIVA** is a physicist, ecofeminist, environmental activist and author. Currently based in New Delhi, she is author of over 300 papers in leading scientific and technical journals and author of "Water Wars: Privatization, Pollution, and Profit". She is the recipient of the 1993 Alternative Nobel Peace Prize (the Right Livelihood Award). Visit [Navdanya.org](http://Navdanya.org)



**OSCAR OLIVERA**, a Bolivian industry worker, led the popular uprising in Cochabamba in 2000 against US multinational Bechtel who had taken over their water systems as an IMF-imposed condition for debt relief. He is the executive secretary of the Cochabamba Federation of Factory Workers and spokesperson for the Coalition in Defense of Water and Life.



**MICHAL KRAVCIK** is an award winning Slovak scientist and founder of NGO People and Water, who developed the Blue Alternative project as an alternative to dams. His work proposes that the main cause of Global Warming is the drying-up of the atmosphere via poor water management.

### CAST:



When RYAN HRELJAC was in grade one he learned from his teacher that people were dying because they didn't have clean water to drink. He raised \$70 doing chores to buy a well for an African village and has since raised over \$2,000,000 to build 319 wells in 114 counties to provide nearly half a million African people fresh water via the Ryan's Well Foundation.



When Nestle set up their water bottling plant, threatening export laws of Great Lakes water, a group of concerned citizens led by TERRY SWIER and RHONDA HUFF, formed Michigan Citizens for Water Conservation (MCWC) and sued the multinational giant with the aid of attorney JIM OLSEN.



VIRGINIA SETSHEDI is a Soweto-based anti-privatization activist and founder of the Anti-Privatization Forum in Johannesburg, a forum that provides African community organizations with information around issues of Trade, Debt, Globalization and Privatization and unites these communities in the fight for clean water in Africa.

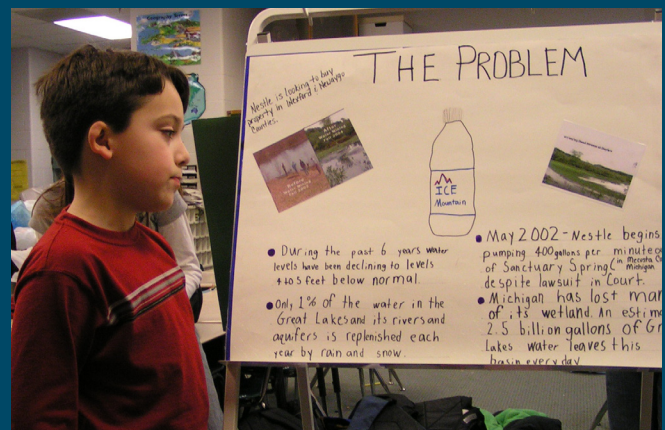


ROBERT GLENNON wrote 'Water Follies: Groundwater Pumping and the Fate of America's Fresh Waters', the first book ever to focus on the environmental problems caused by groundwater pumping. Professor of Law and Public Policy in the Rogers College of Law at the University of Arizona, he has more than 30 years of professional experience in water law.



HELEN SARAkinOS is the Director of River Restoration for the River Alliance of Wisconsin, a statewide river advocacy group that serves as the voice for rivers in the public arena. For over seven years, she has worked closely with communities and decision-makers to advocate and build campaigns for dam removal as a river restoration and community revitalization tool.

**"A must see film for every person on the planet."** - *Greenmuze.com*



## FILMMAKER BIOS:

**Sam Bozzo** produced, directed, and edited “Blue Gold: World Water Wars”, his second feature documentary which he shot in nearly a dozen countries. His first documentary focuses on computer hackers, produced by TriggerStreet Productions and narrated by Kevin Spacey.

An Art Center College of Design Alumni, Sam wrote, directed, and edited three international award winning short films which have been screened on the Sundance Channel and Showtime, the Toronto International Film Festival and Sundance Film Festival. He is also a Top 10 Director Project Greenlight Director, a published novelist, and writer of several feature films being packaged by his company Purple Turtle Films.



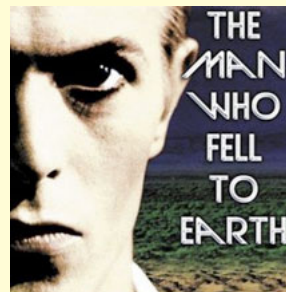
**Mark Achbar**, Executive Producer of Blue Gold, has worked in film for 30 years. He is one of a wave of non-fiction feature filmmakers reaching large international audiences through mainstream theatres, TV, DVD, and the internet. He co-produced

and co-directed the two most successful Canadian feature documentaries ever made: “Manufacturing Consent: Noam Chomsky” and the Media and “The Corporation”. His films popularize radical critiques, win dozens of prestigious awards, and gross millions at the box-office.



**Si Litvinoff**, Executive Producer of Blue Gold, also Executive Produced “The Man Who Fell to Earth”, the cult classic sci-fi starring David Bowie which deals with an extraterrestrial water crisis and “A Clockwork Orange”. He Produced “Walkabout”.

Prior to film production Litvinoff was for 12 years a New York City lawyer who represented many iconic figures including Andy Warhol.



“Finally, a water film that kicks ass and makes the water crisis story fresh, interesting and accessible.” - *Greenmuze.com*

## ORGANIZATIONS:

Please join or support the organizations below to ensure your right to water in the future.

Council of the Canadians  
[www.canadians.org](http://www.canadians.org)

Polaris Institute  
[www.polarisinstitute.org](http://www.polarisinstitute.org)

Food & Water Watch  
[www.foodandwaterwatch.org](http://www.foodandwaterwatch.org)

Michigan Citizens for Water Conservation (MCWC)  
[www.savemiwater.org](http://www.savemiwater.org)

People and Water  
[www.waterparadigm.org](http://www.waterparadigm.org)

Ryan's Well Foundation  
<http://www.ryanswell.ca>

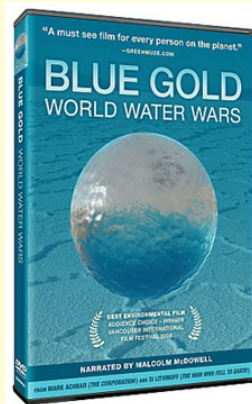
River Alliance of Wisconsin  
[www.wisconsinrivers.org](http://www.wisconsinrivers.org)

Navdanya

Anti-Privatization Forum in Johannesburg  
[apf.org.za](http://apf.org.za)

France Libertés Fondation  
Danielle Mitterrand  
[www.france-libertes.fr](http://www.france-libertes.fr)

## DISTRIBUTORS:



### U.S. VIDEO AND DIGITAL

PBS Video  
Consumer and Educational  
videos available at  
[www.shoppbs.org](http://www.shoppbs.org)

For bulk orders, email  
[wholesale@pbs.org](mailto:wholesale@pbs.org)



### CANADIAN:

Mongrel Media  
1028 Queen St. West,  
Toronto, ON,  
M6J 1H6, Canada  
Phone: (416) 516-9775  
[jenna@mongrelmedia.com](mailto:jenna@mongrelmedia.com)  
[www.mongrelmedia.com](http://www.mongrelmedia.com)

### WORLD SALES:

Filmoption International Inc.  
3401 St. Antoine Street  
Westmount, Quebec  
H3Z 1X1, Canada  
Phone (Montreal): (514) 931-6180  
Phone (Toronto): (905) 916-4000  
[mrosilio@filmoption.com](mailto:mrosilio@filmoption.com)  
[www.filmoption.com](http://www.filmoption.com)

