

“Angel Azul” conveys environmental message through art

special to the WEEKENDER

The beautiful and beautifully made documentary “Angel Azul” weaves together themes of art and ecology in a feature-length piece that will appear in the upcoming Breckenridge Film Festival on Sept. 18-21. In “Angel Azul,” we see Jason deCaires Taylor, an innovative artist and diver, create artificial coral reefs from statues he casts from live models.

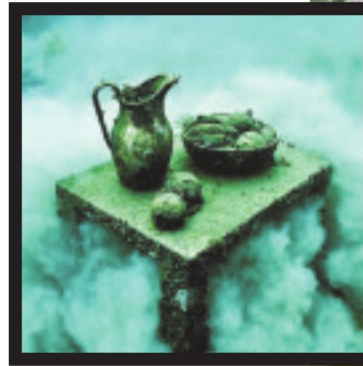
The film depicts the creation of a particular statue, Angel Azul, from the arduous process endured by the model to the statue’s installation on the ocean floor and the attachment of Gorgonian coral wings that flutter with the tide. These underwater works of art serve at least two purposes:

to provide a substrate for new coral reefs and to attract divers, diverting them and their impact from the natural — and endangered — coral tops of the Mesoamerican Reef off the Yucatán Peninsula.

The film showcases the unique art form at the same time it educates about the severe threats to Earth’s coral reefs and how tourists and citizens of the planet can help mitigate those threats against the dire scientific prediction that in 50 years almost 70 percent of Earth’s natural reefs will be lost. While watching, viewers will be immersed in the serene underwater landscapes of these vanishing coral reefs and will catch a glimpse — albeit virtual — of the underwater art while watching this film.

As Director Marcy Cravat said, she hopes viewers “will gravitate toward the understanding that we are all connected.”

Learn more about this and other films online at www.breckfilmfest.com. Do you want to sponsor this film at the annual Breckenridge Film Festival? Email info@breckfilmfest.com for information. The Breckenridge Film Festival will bring more than 50 independent films, their filmmakers and festival-goers to Breckenridge from Sept. 18-21. Featuring chances to meet filmmakers, panel discussions, plenty of parties and mingling, and — back this year — the Adventure Reel for young and young-at-heart audiences!



JASON DECAIRES TAYLOR / SPECIAL TO THE WEEKENDER

The film ‘Angel Azul’ follows artist Jason deCaires Taylor as he creates underwater sculptures to help rehabilitate coral reefs. The film will be shown at the Breckenridge Film Festival in September.

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