

Bay Area Filmmaker Showcases S.F. Bay's Historic Sailboats

By Monica Grant | August 2, 2024 | San Francisco Bay Area | 0 □

Bay Area film producer Vincent Casalaina of Berkeley has shared an update of his newest work, *Wind in Their Sails: Death and Resurrection*. The film tells the story of San Francisco's beautiful and historic sailboats, celebrating the classic yachts that have survived and the people who have dedicated their lives to maintaining them.



This photo heads the film's press release.
© 2024 "Wind In Their Sails: Death and Resurrection"

"1849 and 'Gold Fever' changed San Francisco from a sleepy small town to a booming stopping-off point for those coming by square-rigged ships around Cape Horn and across the Pacific on their way to the gold fields. Many of those ships came to the Bay and were abandoned by their crews. They were left to rot and die on the shoreline. Death is a natural part of the life cycle of wooden ships," Casalaina writes. "Even today, 170 years after the Gold Rush, there are boats on the Bay that hark back to those glorious days of sail and how competition was always a part of that sailing history."



The film will tell the story as told by the owners, sailors, and craftspeople who dedicate their lives to preserving the beautiful, aging relics.

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Here's what Casalaina has to say about the film:

The Story's Dark Side:

The dark side to this story is that wooden boats need lots of tender loving care to stay afloat and capable of sailing. Without that care, these boats fall quickly into disrepair. Every year several wooden boats disappear from the Bay.

A few lucky boats find a way to come back to life. Our story focuses on the *Freda*, built in 1885. The *Freda* has died twice, and both times found people who dedicated time and money to bring her back to life. Other boats have also been resurrected, and they will flesh out the story.

In Their Own Words:

Our story is told directly by the owners, sailors, and boat restorers who have dedicated their lives to preserving these beautiful boats with deep roots in the Bay. These people are passionate about their work and it shows in the way they talk about the boats and the care they take in maintaining them.

Wind in Their Sails: Death and Resurrection is both educational and uplifting, and it provides a fascinating look at the classic yachts that have become such an important part of San Francisco's history and culture.

Our Team:

The documentary is helmed by Emmy award-winning producer Vincent Casalaina and hosted by legendary yachtsman and America's Cup winner Gary Jobson.

"I've just finished a short video about the Master Mariners Benevolent Association's 2024 regatta, featuring the 100-year-old *Brigadoon*," Casalaina (<https://www.latitude38.com/lectronic/wooden-boats-canal-boating-vince-casalaina/>) adds. You can watch the *Brigadoon* video here

The documentary is being endorsed by local sailing businesses and organizations. You can follow the production journey on the team's [Facebook page](#)