

# SHARP & ASSOCIATES public relations

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## **A Concrete River A Benefit to Revive the Waters of Los Angeles**

Los Angeles, CA—Actor/Director/Producer Raphael Sbarge (*TNT's Murder in the First*, *ABC's Once Upon a Time*) announces the premiere screening and fund raiser Wednesday, July 29, 2015 of his documentary, **A Concrete River: Reviving the Waters of Los Angeles**. The remarkable history of the Los Angeles River, the powerful efforts being made to revitalize this vital Los Angeles asset and the precarious future of this 51-mile waterway are the reason so many are gathering to benefit the Los Angeles River.

The evening is co-sponsored by Friends of the Los Angeles River (FOLAR), Green Wish (a non-profit-founded by Sbarge to fund community based green projects), and Laemmle Theatres. Laemmle's CEO Greg Laemmle is donating the space for the screening, photo exhibit, panel discussion and cocktail conversation at the North Hollywood location.

The film short is particularly timely with a major decision in Congress due on July 16th, which will determine the scope of the rivers restoration. Remarkably, many long-term residents are unaware that a river exists in their city. Los Angeles, better known for its concrete, and devoid of green space, is now watching the rivers restoration, as sections are returned to a natural habitat for wildlife and as a place for us to gather. Sbarge says, "FOLAR and Los Angeles are at a pivotal moment in their history. In order to make REAL change possible, for generations to come, we need to support FOLAR's efforts to gather funds to make these proposed changes. This is a "call to action" for everyone in Los Angeles, to step up to shape the direction of our city, and this important resource. The funds raised will go directly to support the larger vision of the river's expansion currently under discussion."

Sbarge and his team have been working on the documentary over the past year and it is made possible by a generous contribution from The California Institute of Contemporary Arts ([CICA.org](http://CICA.org)).

The music for the documentary is donated and provided by several local LA bands including Down South, Perro Bravo and Tone in Georgia. Guests will also view an art show of photos documenting the Los Angeles River by photographer Peter Bennett.

A short and energetic panel discussion will follow the screening with panelists

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including Ed Begley, Jr., FOLAR founder, Lewis MacAdams, Laemmle CEO, Greg Laemmle, Raphael Sbarge and river photographer, Peter Bennett.

Sbarge and Begley, Jr. will be joined at the event by guests including *Murder in the First* cast members Emmanuelle Chriqui, Kathleen Robertson, Currie Graham, AJ Buckley and Lombardo Boyar, Jamie McShane (*Bloodline*), Camilla Luddington (*Grey's Anatomy*), Eric Ladin (*The Brink*), Annabelle Gurwitch (*Comedian*), Jodi Lyn O'Keefe (*The Vampire Diaries*), Meagan Tandy (*Teen Wolf*), Sinqua Wells (*Power*), Chris Sheffield (*Aquarius*), Sharon Lawrence (*NYPD Blue, Rizzoli & Isles*), Rebecca Wisocky (*Devious Maids*), J. August Richards (*Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D.*), Ross Butler (*KC Undercover*) and many others. The event time is 6:30pm followed by 7:00pm screening at Laemmle Theatre Noho 7, 5240 Lankershim Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 91601. Seating strictly limited. RSVP required and suggested tax-deductible donations of \$40.00 per ticket.

The art show of photographs of the LA River opens for viewing at 6pm. For ticket information contact: [fayna@greenwish.com](mailto:fayna@greenwish.com)

For press and VIP information, please contact: Sharp & Associates PR at [323.876.5153](tel:323.876.5153)

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