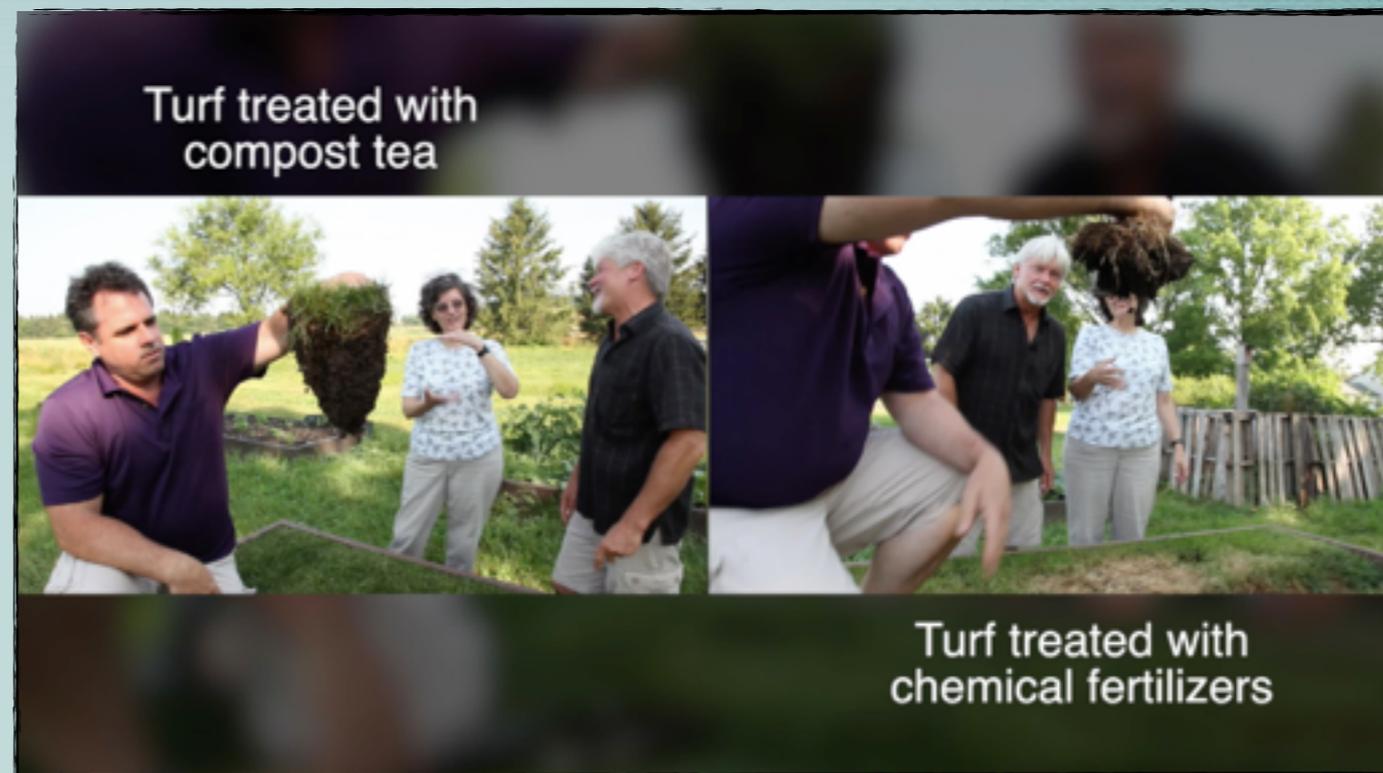


It All Starts In The Soil.



a film by Beezhan Tulu
Living Web Films
LivingWebFilms.com
b@LivingWebFilms.com
310-739-2630

[Watch The Trailer](#)

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Beezhan Tulu's

Filmography, Biography, & Mission Statement

FILMOGRAPHY:

- 2014, "Selma Rubin And Community of Life", **OFFICIAL SELECTION, Santa Barbara International Film Festival**
- 2014, "It All Starts In The Soil"
- 2013, "350, The Most Important Number", **WINNER OF AWARD OF MERIT, Accolade Competition**
- 2013, "Cancer. What Is The Truth?", **WINNER OF AWARD OF MERIT, Accolade Competition**
- 2013, "Cafe Gratitude"
- 2012, "Seedling"
- 2012, "Passive House, A Building Revolution" (Cameraman)
- 2011, "Power", (Developing editor and developing cameraman)
- 2008, "Warner Brothers online TV shows" (Editor/P)
- 2007, "Technostorks", (Editor), **WINNER OF BEST HEALTH DOCUMENTARY, NY Film Festival**
- 2006, "Racer Girlz", **SCREENED AT Discovery Channel International**
- 2005, "The American Elm" (Editor), **OFFICIAL SELECTION, Berkshire Film Festival**
- 2004, "Flight", (Filmmaker), **OFFICIAL SELECTION, Takoma Park & DC Film Festival**
- 2003, "The Fire Inside" (Filmmaker), **OFFICIAL SELECTION, Takoma Film Festival.**

BIOGRAPHY:

Beezhan Tulu, an independent filmmaker began his work as a freelance journalist at age 16. He traveled around the world as a freelance Editor and Director of Photography for many years, producing a weekly program that aired in 42 different cable TV stations. His work has been aired in Discovery Channel, online Warner Brother TV shows, NBC, CNN, and French TV Channel TF1. His next projects include a documentary on compost tea (about how it can replace synthetic chemical fertilizers and also Earth Medicine (about how to reconnect to our planet and each other).

MISSION STATEMENT:

Living Web Films uses the art of film making to create a healthier planet for all species. We focus on stories with bright solutions. We commit to make honest, deeply researched, and groundbreaking films that can nurture and evolve our culture. We do our best to showcase most reliable and proven options for advanced transportation, housing and food and we commit to share that with the world.

It All Starts In The Soil.

Film Synopsis and about Bob Posthuma

SYNOPSIS:

After losing his job as a result of a head-to-head collision, Bob Posthuma gets on the road, learns about soil food web, and finally invents his own compost tea machine, GeoTea. Compost tea can improve porosity in soil, water storage capacity, room for biological life, and perhaps most importantly resistance to erosion. In his 11,000 miles journey, filmmaker Beezhan Tulu follows Bob Posthuma and visits some of the most amazing locations in US where they use compost tea as a replacement for chemical fertilizers and pesticides in their landscaping practices. The locations include Harvard University, NYC Highline Park, Rodale Institute, Maui Kupa'a Coffee Farm, and many others.

ONE-LINE SYNOPSIS:

Compost tea - made by GeoTea Compost Tea machine - can replace synthetic chemical fertilizers.

ABOUT BOB POSTHUMA:

Robert Posthuma, developer of the GEOtea compost tea brewing system, has devoted the better part of his life to studying and working with fertilization and soil management. After many years of development, trial & error, and testing, Robert is proud to have the ability to present a product that holistically effects the ecosystem for the better. He travels around the world educating people on compost tea and working with them to produce a product which will best serve the customer's need, though it's always enjoyable to come home to rural Wisconsin where he makes his home.

It All Starts In The Soil.

Film Characters

Gerry Ross:

Gerry and Janet farm on 4 acres of cleared land in the dry leeward slopes of Halaekala. They believe that soil is the heart of any agricultural operation and they do their best to try and keep their soil alive and healthy and work hard to limit the amount of erosion. They accomplish this through the use of compost, compost tea, cover crops, perennial vegetative barriers to limit erosion, and by avoiding bare soil fallow. "Kupa'a" means "firm" or "solid" in Hawaiian and although the name originated in reference to the rocky soil here, it now reflects the solid, life-giving practices that we use to grow food.

James Sottilo:

James founded and is the principle owner of Ecological Landscape Management. Ecological landscape management means much more to James than 'organic gardening' and being 100% chemical free; it embodies his commitment to taking a holistic and scientific approach to creating healthier, more beautiful landscapes. James's expertise includes new landscape establishment along with carbon and water reducing practices that yield exquisite, quantifiable results. James is a Certified Soil Foodweb Advisor and an ISA Certified Arborist. He has lectured at the Harvard GSD and is past president of the Long Island Arboricultural Association.

Andrea Filippone & Eric T. Fleisher:

Andrea and Eric believe that managing the environment responsibly is a challenge that requires philosophical and behavioral change. The environment needs to be approached as a complete living system with a myriad of interacting parts both above and below the surface of the soil. We need to understand these components, how they work individually, and as part of a larger complex system in order to encourage and manage this valuable resource.

F² Environmental Design bases its landscape management techniques on encouraging and maintaining the natural living systems, through soil management techniques, applying custom blends of compost, liquid biological amendments often referred to as "compost tea", and other biological amendments. This is all done at the site or at the nursery where specialized compost recipes are prepared for the specific needs of each project. The biological principles of nature are utilized to fulfill the needs of each landscape. This is a process based, diagnostic approach. This is important not only for the individual characteristics of each landscape, but the performance requirements of each project. This along with the data collected in regards to plant palette, soil characteristics, macro, and micro environments, is what F² Environmental Design utilizes to make its remedial recommendations.

The health and vitality of our projects are unrivaled in the industry and many are trying to mimic F²ED techniques. F²ED is staying ahead of the curve and on the cutting edge through continued research and development, often partnering with institutions such as Harvard & Princeton Universities.

Their work revolves around sustainability and its core definition: **sus-tain-a-ble** (suh-stey-nuh-buhl) *adj.* to be able to keep up or keep going as an action or process, to be able to supply with food, drink and other necessities of life, to be able to use a resource so that the resource is not depleted or permanently damaged.

It All Starts In The Soil.

Film Characters

Dr. Elaine Ingham:

Dr. Elaine Ingham brews a tea not meant to be soothing to the human palate but rather nourishing to the soil and backed by years of academic research.

Known the world over as an expert speaker on the benefits of sustainable soil science, Dr. Ingham's recipe for compost tea offers everyone from commercial farmers and serious growers to backyard garden or lawn greenthumbs a chemical-free way to improve soils and plant growth. Her work in the area of soil tests has advanced knowledge of the nutrient cycle and its impact on organic vegetable gardening.

The internationally respected soil microbiologist started her academic career at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN, graduating with a double major in biology and chemistry in 1974. She then received her Master of Science in Microbiology from Texas A&M in 1977 and her doctoral degree in Microbiology from Colorado State University in 1981. Dr. Ingham then took a post-doctoral fellowship at Colorado State University's Natural Resource Ecology Lab.

After a Research Associate Fellowship at the University of Georgia, Dr. Ingham joined Oregon State University faculty in the departments of Forest Science and Botany and Plant Pathology. She now divides her time between Oregon and Australia, working as an Assistant-Associate Professor at Oregon State and a Professor at Southern Cross University in Australia. The focus of her academic work continues to be which beneficial and harmful organisms are present in plants and soil and how to manage these organisms - the beneficial bacteria, protozoa, fungi and Nematodes - to grow plants and maintain soil fertility without using inorganic chemicals.

Currently, in addition to lecturing at symposia around the world, Dr. Ingham is President and Director of Research for Soil Foodweb, Inc. This commercial enterprise, with five labs around the globe including locations in the USA and Australia, developed out of her very successful soil sample analysis service offered at Oregon State University. She also sits on several boards and scientific organizations, publishes scientific papers, and contributes to magazines and other periodicals.

Dr. Ingham has authored several books, including *The Field Guide for Actively Aerated Compost Tea (AACT)*, *Compost Tea Quality: Light Microscope Methods*, and *The Compost Tea Brewing Manual*, now available in its 5th edition and considered to be the authoritative manual on making, applying, and assessing compost tea. She also co-authored *Soil Biology Primer* with Andrew R. Moldenke and Clive A. Edwards.

Harry Wiland, Media Policy Center:

The footage on Harvard University (minus interview with Bob Posthuma) was a gift from Harry Wiland, and his company Media Policy Center. Media Policy Center's award-winning television and new media productions empower audiences to build and improve their communities. Their unique outreach programs provide the support and tools to make change happen. Taking on the important issues, from environmental sustainability and health care to education and culture, MPC is dedicated to building better communities across the nation – and around the world.

Harry Wiland graduated Brooklyn College with a major in Chemistry and from Columbia University with a MFA in Film & Television. Wiland has produced public television and multimedia for over 30 years. While still a student at Columbia, he co-produced *Johnny Cash: The Man, His World and Music*, a television and feature film production. From 1994–1997 he was CEO of Leonardo Internet. In 2002, with business partner Dale Bell, he founded the Media & Policy Center located in Santa Monica, CA and developed its media model. With Bell, he has been the Executive Producer and Director of all of MPC's major productions. In 2004-05, he co-wrote the PBS Companion book for *Edens Lost & Found* and in 2006 supervised the writing of its academic curriculum. Wiland and Bell were the project leaders for *Edens Lost & Found* (2006–07). Other projects include the 20-unit video series *Going To Green* Sustainability Curriculum released by PBSd/Chelsea Green Publishing in 2008. In 2006, Harry and Dale were elected Ashoka Lifetime Fellows, and they remain the only media professionals in that organization. The team produced and directed *Growing Greener Schools* to air on PBS during Earth Day Week in 2010. Wiland has been a director member of the Director's Guild of America since 1981, and of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences since 2003.

It All Starts In The Soil.

Film Characters

Coach Mark Smallwood, Executive Director

Coach's professional experience has been dedicated to environmental sustainability, efficiency and conservation. Since joining Rodale Institute in December 2010, he has brought heritage livestock back to Rodale Institute's 333-acre farm, expanded and enhanced Rodale Institute's research efforts, as well as launched "Your 2 Cents," a national campaign to support and promote new organic farmers.

Prior to joining Rodale Institute, Coach served as the Mid-Atlantic Green Mission Specialist and Local Forager at Whole Foods, where he was a 2010 National Award Winner for "Best Whole Foods Market Spokesperson." While at Whole Foods, Coach initiated a composting and recycling program throughout the Mid-Atlantic region – an effort that resulted in an 80% diversion of waste from landfills. In recognition for his sustainability efforts, Coach was chosen as a messenger for Al Gore's Climate Project presenting to over 15,000 people on the effects of Global Warming. Last, but certainly not least, as a long-time organic farmer and biodynamic gardener, Coach has raised chickens, goats, sheep, pigs, and driven a team of oxen. Given his array of experiences, Coach is uniquely suited to lead Rodale Institute.

Allen Farm, and Mitchell and Clarissa Posin

The Allen Farm, one of Martha's Vineyard's oldest historic farms, is located on South Road in Chilmark, Massachusetts and is a successful model of a diversified family farm. Jonathan Allen originally purchased the farm in 1762, and his oldest son, Tristram built the still standing timber-framed farmhouse. The farm is about 100 acres of pastureland with only the South shore's barrier beach and Chilmark Pond separating it from the Atlantic Ocean beyond. Mitchell, Clarissa, and their son Nathaniel have permanently preserved the land on the ocean side to ensure that this particularly beautiful view will always be a meadow by the sea. With a respect for its history, this family remains deeply committed to preserving and sustaining their farm.

Norman Q. Arancon

Norman Q. Arancon is an assistant professor of horticulture at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. He specializes in sustainable agriculture, horticulture, crop sciences, agroecology, organic agriculture, vermiculture and vermicomposting. He pioneered research in the utilization of earthworm-worked soil amendments, referred to as vermicomposts, in increasing the growth, flowering and yields of plants such as marigolds, petunias, bell peppers, tomatoes, strawberries and grapes. Arancon's research also revealed that water extracts from vermicomposts, called vermicomposts teas, can potentially have the same effects on plant growth and the suppression of pests and diseases. The research in these areas generated approximately 20 peer-reviewed journal articles and numerous presentations in national and international conferences. Arancon has served as a consultant for industry on numerous projects including Sonoma Vermiculture in Sausalito, California, in construction of a large scale continuous feeding system to process local food wastes with earthworms; Organically Done, LLC, in Franklin, Michigan, in research and development of bulk and liquid products of vermicomposts processed from food wastes; Oregon Soil Corporation, Portland, in the development and utilization of vermicomposts produced from food wastes; Great Lakes Brewery, Inc., in Cleveland, Ohio, in recycling brewery wastes through vermicomposting and development of grant proposals submitted to USDA and the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center; among many others.

It All Starts In The Soil.

Film Characters

Paul Wagner at Treewise.

At Treewise, they are dedicated to being the best plant health care company in New York, Connecticut, New Jersey, and beyond. As Specialists in ecological landscape management, they are committed to being stewards of the environment. They are passionate about creating healthier more 'live' environments, greater landscape beauty, and helping our clients and their clients to gain a deeper appreciation of nature.

Rebecca McMackin

Rebecca is an ecologically obsessed horticulturist and garden designer. By day, she is the Director of Horticulture for 85 acre Brooklyn Bridge Park, where she manages garden beds, meadows, wetlands, and lawns organically and with an eye towards habitat creation for birds, butterflies, and even soil microorganisms. By nights and weekends, Rebecca designs gardens for Mantis Plant Works that are incredibly beautiful, but also secretly function as wildlife habitat. Rebecca teaches classes on gardening for wildlife, pollination ecology, trees, and soil science at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, the New York Botanical Gardens, Stone Barns Center for Agriculture, and for community gardens and clubs. She is an accomplished public speaker and has lectured at New England Grows, Grow Together, and gave the keynote address at this year's Ecological Landscaping Symposium. She has co-hosted the PBS show Garden Smart and was interviewed on Ken Druse's online radio show, The Real Dirt. Rebecca is the Corresponding Secretary for the Torrey Botanical Society, sits on the board of the Ecological Landscaping Association, and is an ISA certified Arborist.

Sandy Syburg and Purple Cow Organics.

Sandy is the founder of Purple Cow Organics and his inspiration for his business of feeding the Earth grew from his childhood. Syburg's idea for selling topsoil combined with living compost blossomed in the early 1990s, after he had been operating as White Oak Farm (WOF). He later decided to create create soil of the highest quality by rescuing discarded yard and brush residuals from area communities and then converting it into the soil amendment known as compost. Today, Syburg rescues and reuses yard and brush residuals in 35 Wisconsin cities, as well as produce residuals from places such as Whole Foods and the Willie Street Coop in Madison. He lives by his mantra: Nothing is waste until it is wasted. From WOF's humble beginnings in a home office at the farm, the company expanded to a 28-acre manufacturing facility in Mapleton. Through its organics conversion service, Purple Cow Organics annually processes and diverts 50,000 tons of material from Milwaukee area landfills. The company also forged alliances with bio-gas and organic agricultural fertilizer producers, and established a number of retail products, such as Purple Cow Transplant Mix. Golf course superintendent Rob Schultz of the Meadows of Sixmile Creek eliminated synthetic chemical fertilizer on the course everywhere but the greens three years ago with Sandy's help.