

FILM LOOKBOOK

JULY 2026

BAJAXL

INTO UNCERTAINTY

AN EXPLORATION OF RISK

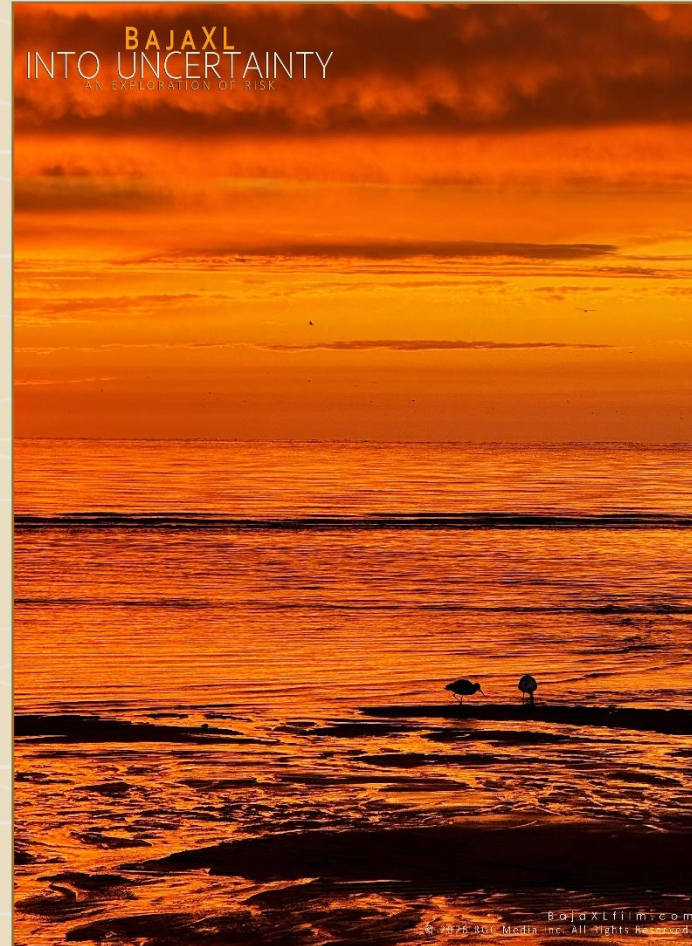


Feature Documentary / Nonfiction Adventure

IntoUncertainty.com



This film is not based on actual events. This is actual events.



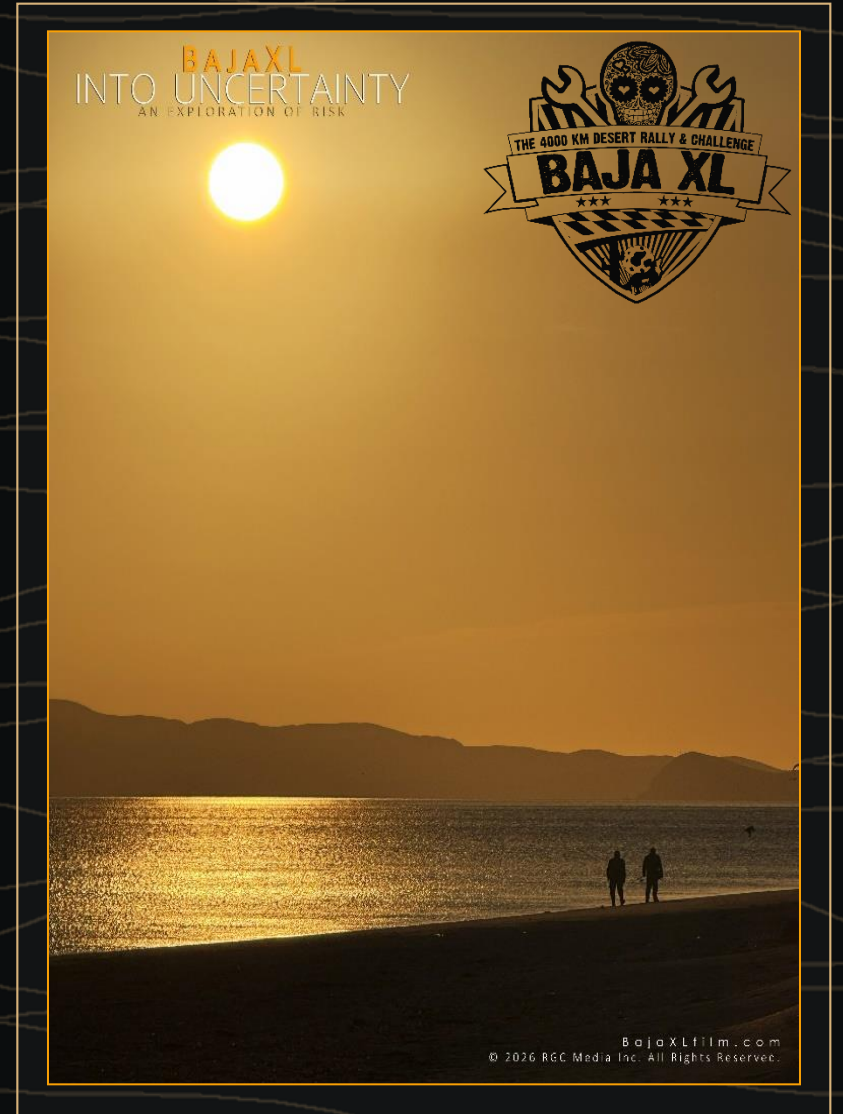
THE FILM

A journey into risk—told from inside it.

Into Uncertainty begins by asking the wrong question. It ends by discovering the right one.

THE ORIGINAL QUESTION

Why do people voluntarily choose risk - what drives them to take chances?



THE STORY

**The expedition is the setting.
Risk is the story.**

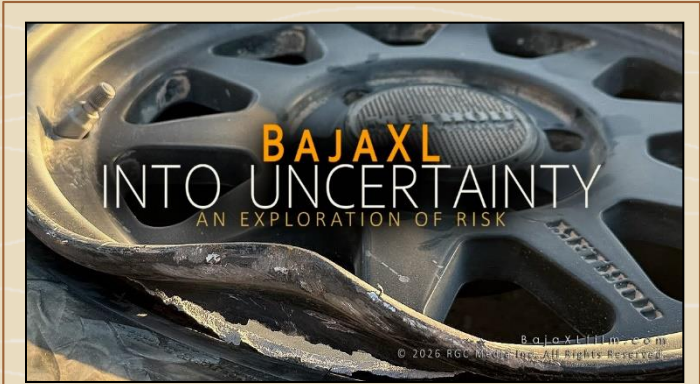
Filmed from inside the expedition, the film uses Baja not as a setting for conquest, but as a mechanism to examine what may be lost in life waiting for perfect circumstances.

Set against the rugged mythology of Baja, Into Uncertainty is ultimately a deeply human story about fear, loss, connection, and the search for meaning—one designed to resonate far beyond the off-road world.

Untouched by AI.



ADVENTURE



HUMAN STORY

RISK PSYCHOLOGY

THE CENTRAL QUESTION

WHY RISK?

*The hardest battles hide beneath the obvious.
Real risk rarely looks dangerous.*

“Already equipped with an intimate understanding of the devastation produced from risk, two seasoned emergency management professionals seek a deeper understanding of why people voluntarily subject themselves to it. Confidence gives way to doubt. Experience evolves. Revelation of what may be lost by waiting for certainty emerges.”



CHOICE



CONSEQUENCE



MEANING

THE CONFLICT

The deepest battles rarely announce themselves.



As the physical danger closes in, everything carried into it grows louder.

Beneath the obvious, where the margin for error becomes dangerously thin, a more consequential struggle is revealed—to endure the journey while carrying old wounds, reckoning with guilt, and gradually accepting a truth that runs against conventional wisdom.

THE CREW

A story documented
with no external crew.

As the expedition lurches forward, they discover that the real story is not surviving Baja, but what discoveries about life emerge when plans collapse and the only way out is to keep going together.



Into Uncertainty follows Ryan, a former firefighter, and Derek, a geologist—two emergency management professionals who become both participants and filmmakers on the BajaXL. Entering the 10-day, community-led off-road rally with an unfinished truck, improvised camera systems, and little rest after wildfire deployments in Los Angeles, they are confronted by mechanical failures, fatigue, navigation errors, and the limits of their own confidence.



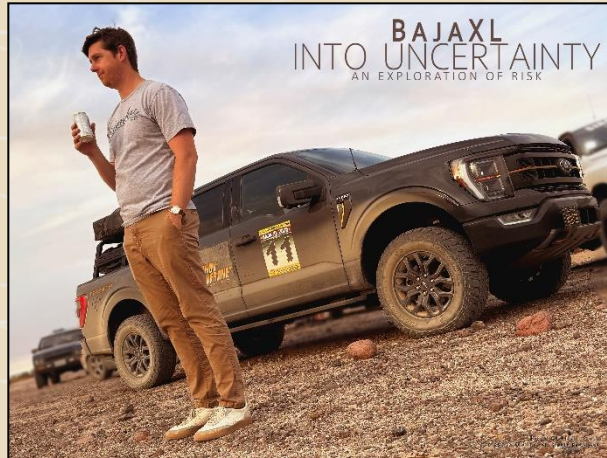
THE STORYTELLERS

The filmmakers are inside the risk.



Former firefighter and emergency management professional. Drawn to the emotional edge between fear, adrenaline, loss, and self-discovery.

Ryan



Geologist and emergency management professional. The Baja XL reconnects him with family, childhood fears, and the lessons found just beyond comfort.

Derek

NARRATIVE TENSION

Ryan and Derek are not presented as experts in Baja, heroic conquerors, or fearless adventurers. Their inexperience, self-awareness, and vulnerability are the audience's point of entry.

THE HUMAN CONNECTION

“There were no strangers here.”

A story documented with no external crew.

A network of people repairing, guiding, and making space for one another move through the larger world of Baja, encountering desert sages, roadside philosophers, and weathered wanderers whose lives have been shaped by the peninsula. Each offers something—a warning, a story, a fragment of hard-earned truth—becoming an unexpected guides for traversing internal trails.



The people encountered through the journey become the film's counterargument to the idea that risk is only individual, lonely, or isolating.

"SANDY DUFRANE"
GET BUSY LIVING. OR GET BUSY DYING.

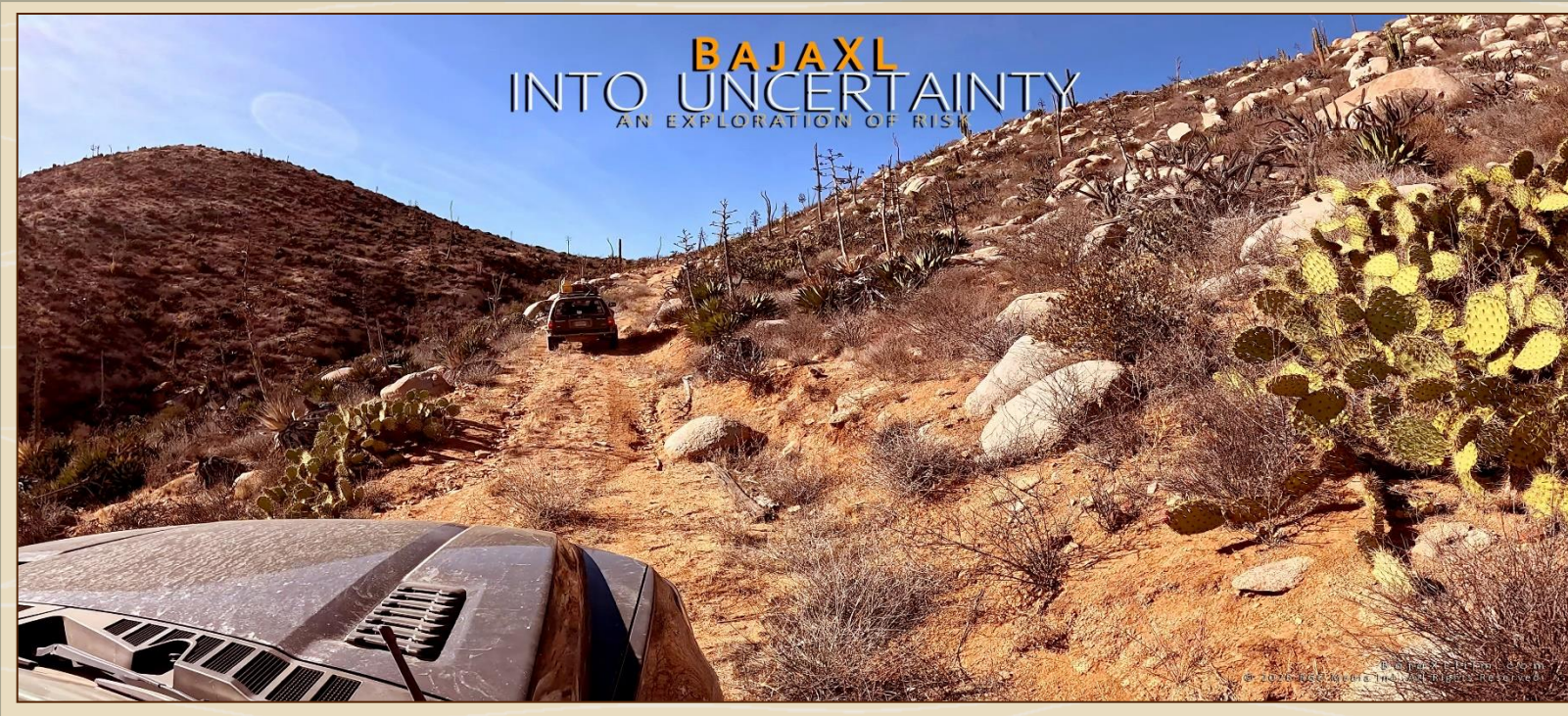


THE EXPEDITION

“An adventure back country expedition much longer than the 1000.”



Similar to the famous Baja 1000 race, this event takes in the same rugged wilderness, only it isn't a competition. It isn't unobtainable race trucks. It isn't what you think Baja is.



10 FULL DAYS

A continuous expedition rather than a single-day race.

COMMUNITY-LED

Mutual aid replaces formal event infrastructure.

NO WINNERS

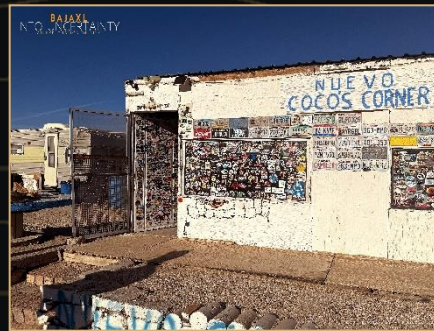
The measure is participation, persistence, and shared experience.

EVERYDAY PEOPLE

Presented from within a daily driver (with the car seats removed).

THE VISUAL LANGUAGE

Immersion over spectacle.



EXPANSIVE

Landscapes establish scale and vulnerability.



INTIMATE

In-cab proximity keeps the audience inside decisions.



IMPERFECT

Vibration, dust, darkness, and interruption become part of the truth.



REFLECTIVE

Stillness creates room for the philosophical story.

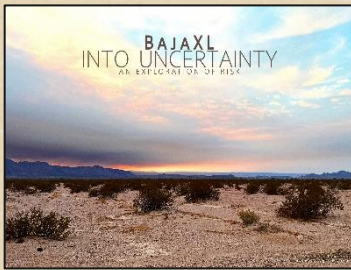
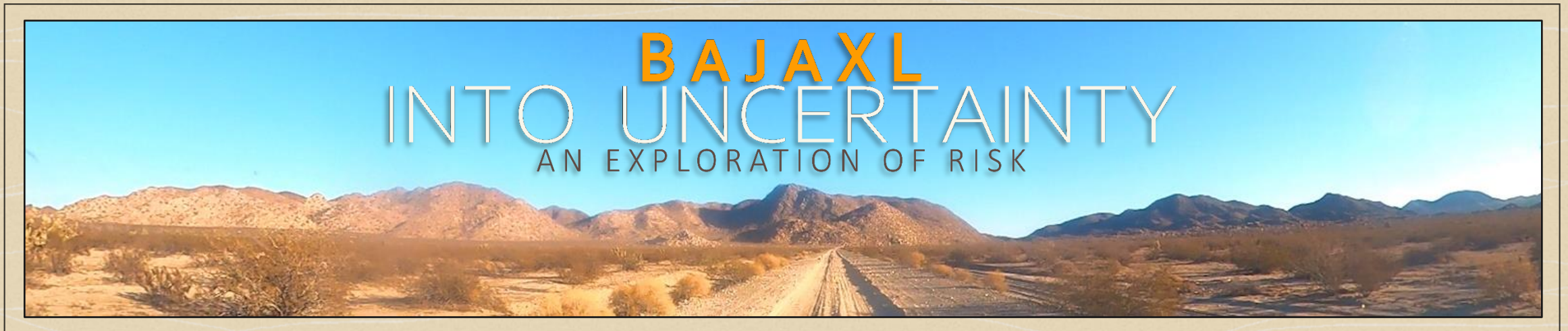
THE PALETTE



THE SENSE OF PLACE

Baja is not a backdrop.

*The peninsula changes scale, texture, temperature, rhythm, and expectation. Its beauty invites movement; its distance makes every choice matter. **Its lessons become a philosophy.***



DESERT
Stillness and
possibility.



MOUNTAINS
Constraint and
consequence.

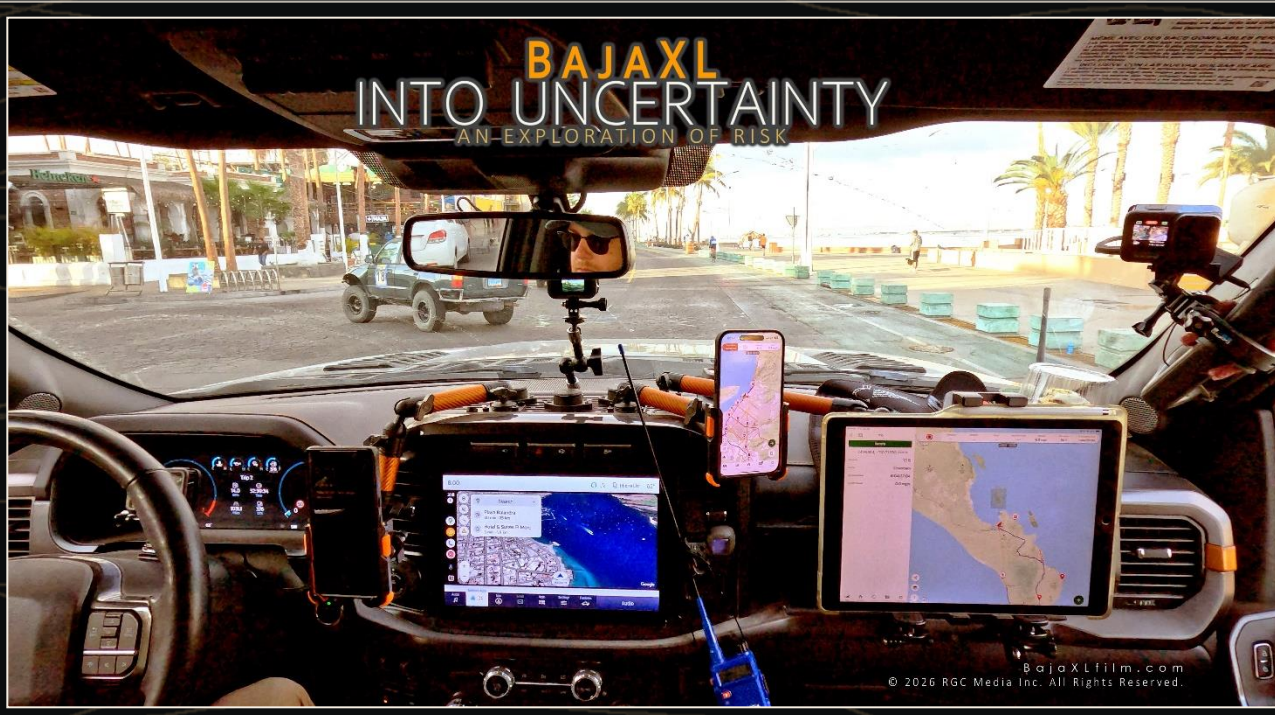


COAST
Exposure and
perspective.

THE PRODUCTION

Into Uncertainty does not observe risk the from outside, it explores it through unscripted immersion.

The camera travels within the uncertainty.



Ryan and Derek were simultaneously the subjects, filmmakers, drivers, navigators, and technicians. Custom mounts and improvised systems turned a family truck into a rolling production environment across dust, vibration, darkness, and fatigue.



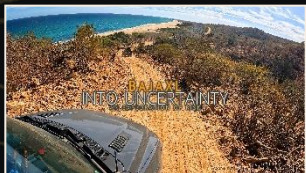
The production could not step away from the expedition.



Camera, audio, power, and storage had to survive the route.



The film records uncertainty before it can be interpreted or polished.



THE TIMING

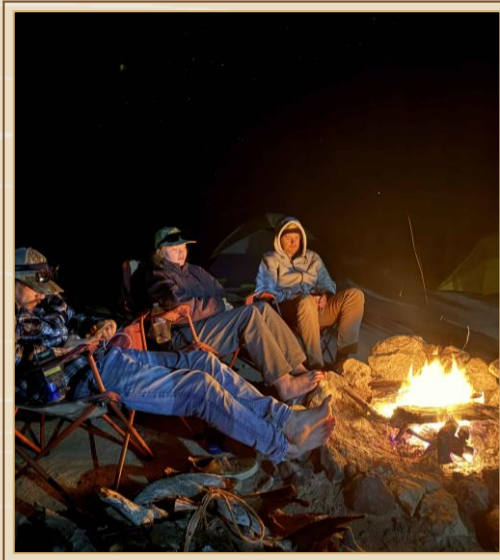
Why this film matters.

At a time when distance, division, and growing cynicism make it easier to distrust one another, Into Uncertainty returns to something elemental: people facing the unknown together. Across borders, backgrounds, and beliefs, the film reveals that shared experience can still dissolve suspicion, restore perspective, and remind us how deeply we depend on one another.



HUMANITY

Exposed when certainty disappears



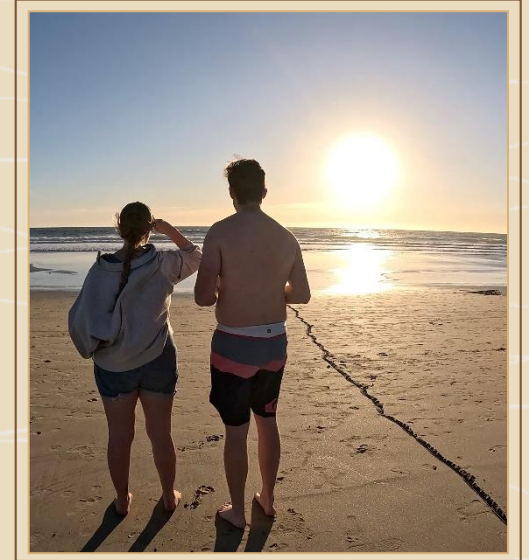
COMMONALITIES

Revealed outside of borders and politics.



PERSPECTIVE

Recovered when the noise quiets.



HOPE

Not promised ironically but proven in action.

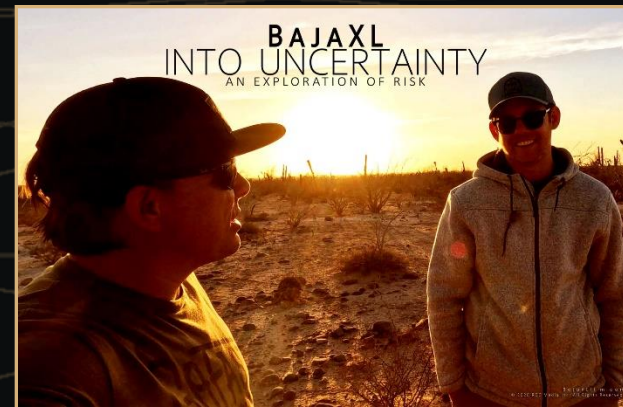
THE NARRATIVE PROGRESSION

Ten+ Days Into Uncertainty

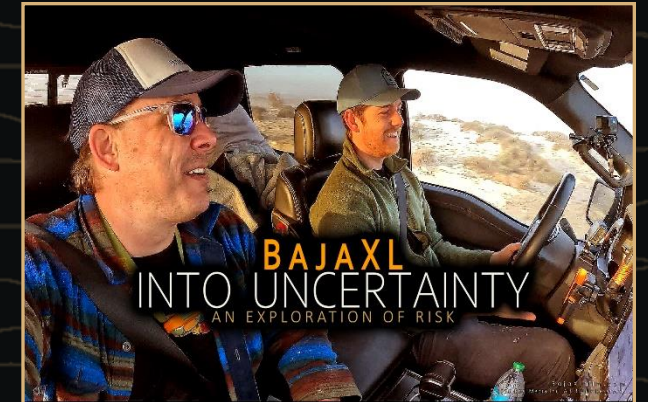
DAY 0 Getting to Our Feet DAY 1 A New World DAY 2 Scratching the Surface DAY 3 Overconfidence DAY 4 Reconsidering Choices DAY 5 Halfway DAY 6 Recentering DAY 7 Finding Our Rhythm DAY 8 Healing Wounds DAY 9 Saying Goodbye DAY 10 Outatime



ACT I
THE LEAP

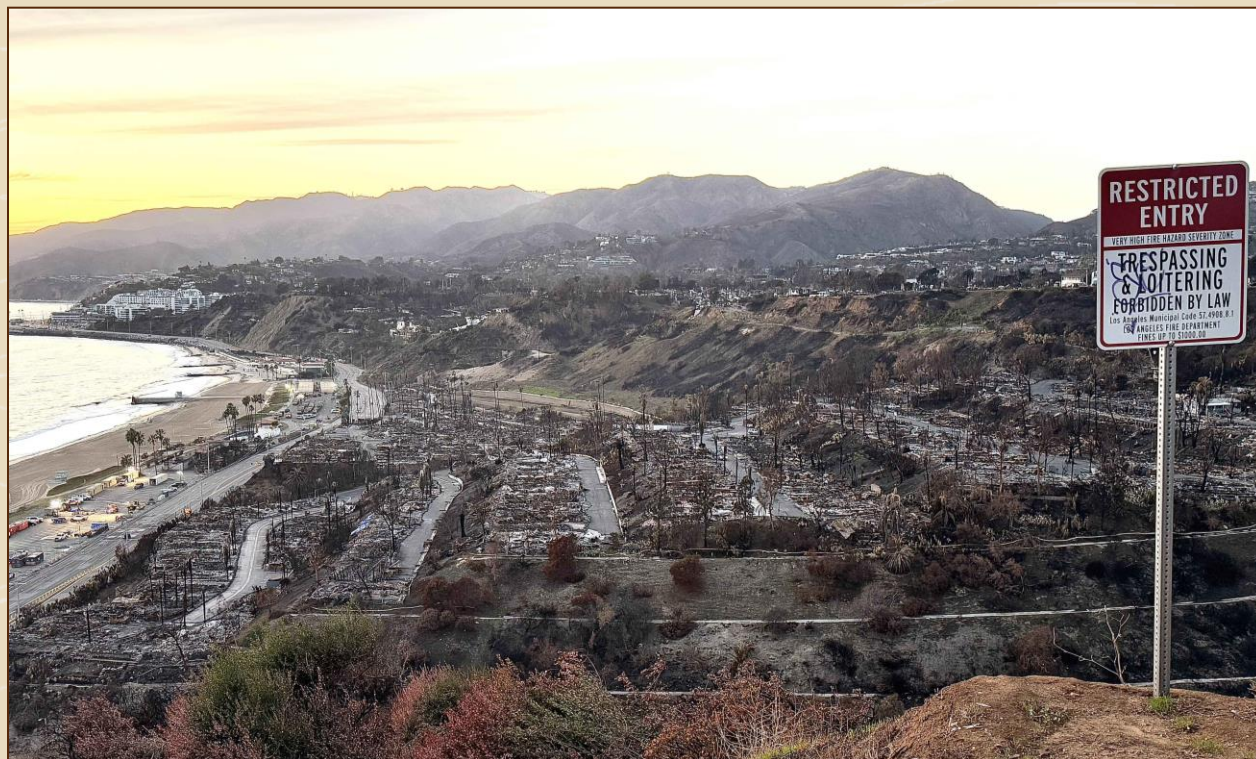


ACT II
THE RECKONING



ACT III
WHAT RISK REVEALS

“Treasures that can never be taken away – experiences, and personal growth forged through immersion – gifts beyond purchase or design that can only be obtained through discovery.”



ACT I THE LEAP



Months of preparation collapsed into a final day of improvisation after Ryan and Derek forfeited final BajaXL preparation to deploy to the Los Angeles wildfires.

- 1 **PREPARATION** Ambition collides with limited time.
- 2 **DEPARTURE** Guilt, exhaustion, and commitment battle each other.
- 3 **THRESHOLD** The unknown shifts from threat to possibility.

With lost prep time, they leave families behind, point an unfinished daily-driver truck toward the border, and cross into Baja.

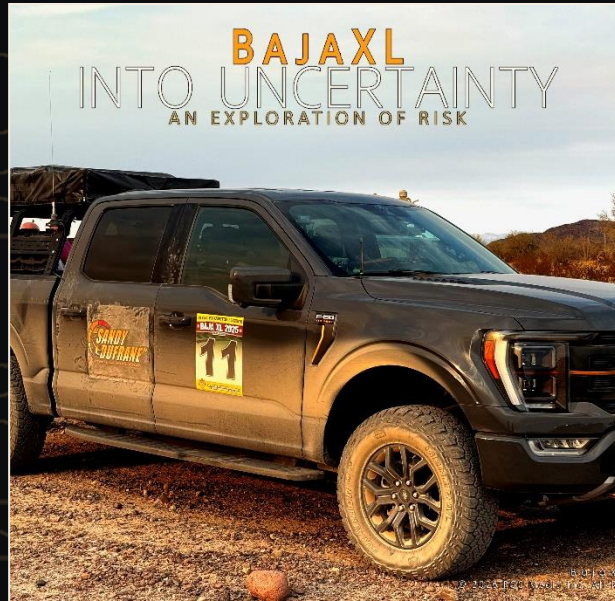
ACT I

THE LEAP

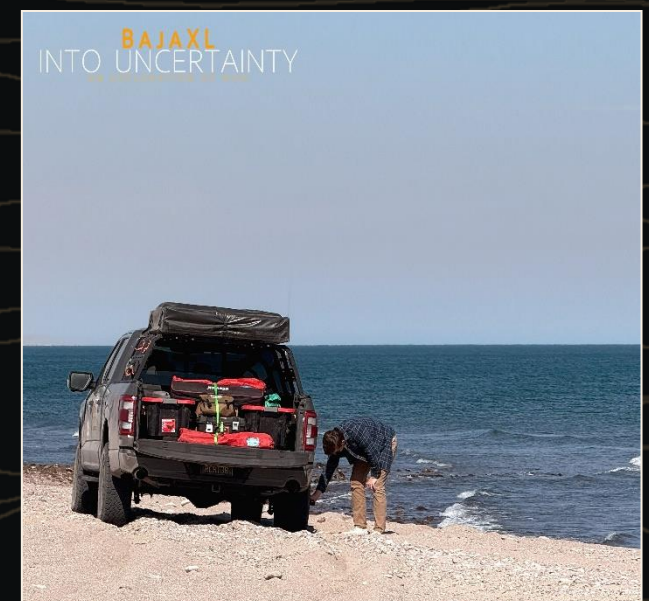
Early confidence gives way to the physical and psychological consequences of fatigue, mechanical vulnerability, difficult terrain, and imperfect judgment.



PLANNING Failures expose dependence.



DEPARTING Exhaustion narrows judgment.

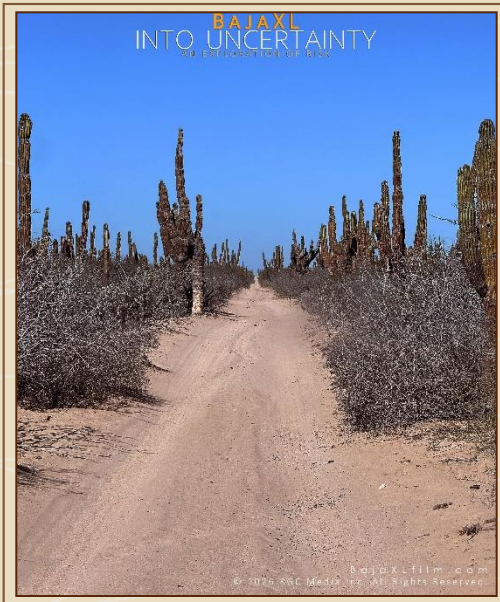


OVERCONFIDENCE Vulnerabilities and risk escalate.

ACT II

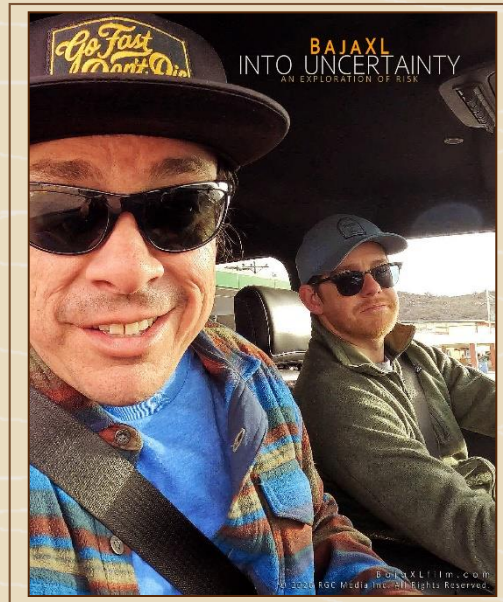
THE RECKONING

The film moves between real and perceived threats, urgency, and philosophical reflection. Humor keeps the experience human; Baja allows the meaning to surface.



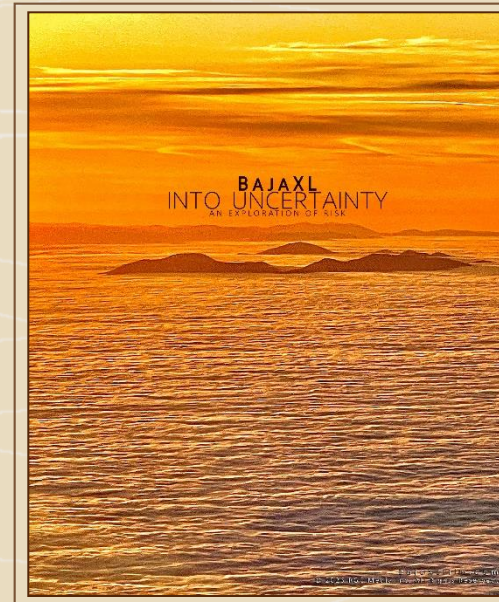
PRESSURE

Dust, isolation, repairs, narrowing choices.



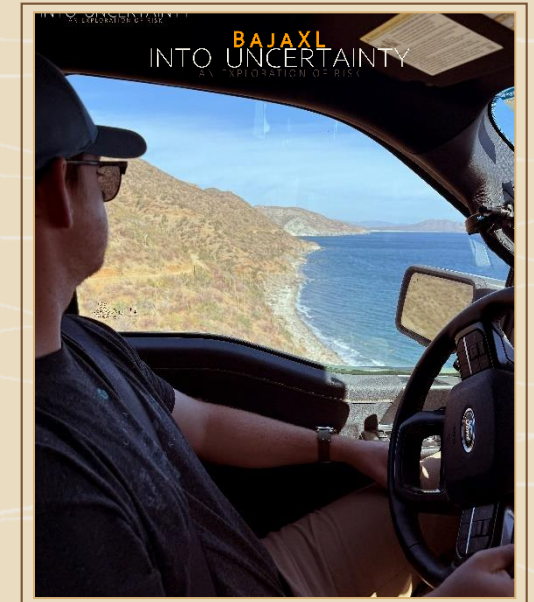
HUMOR

Self-awareness punctures bravado.



STILLNESS

Landscape and silence widen the story.



RELEASE

Connection arrives before certainty.

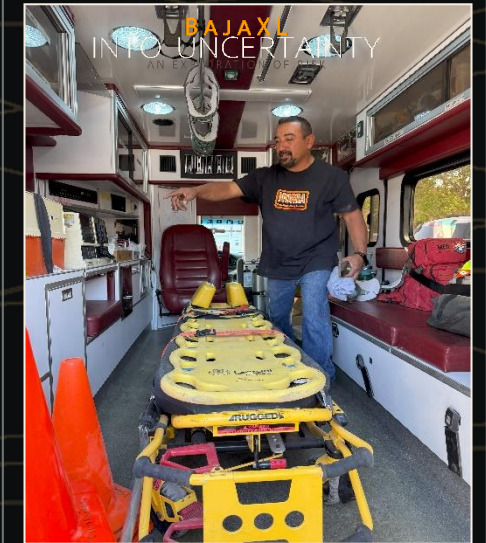
ACT II

THE RECKONING

Third-party validation from the mayor of San Ignacio, and Fire Department Sub-Commander who recorded acknowledgments of the charitable contributions, provides a credibility signal.



Meaningful connections and personal growth emerge as BajaXL participants give back to locals, donating supplies to small village schools and raising funds for the San Ignacio village fire department.



ACT III

WHAT RISK REVEALS

THE BETTER QUESTION

What do we forfeit when certainty becomes our condition for living?

Uncertainty awards opportunities to feel life.

COMMUNITY Stripped away pretense, creating connections beyond the reach of conventional.

VULNERABILITY Displayed without judgment, welcomed without hesitation, and never diminished by ridicule.

PRESENCE Permission to continue forward - that never demands to be spoken.



ACT III

WHAT RISK REWARDS

Baja reveals something a safe and ordinary life conceals. Lingering ideas carried long after the film concludes.

The film navigates conflict and risk, organically evolving into a larger meditation on what happens when certainty becomes the condition for living.



OVERCOMING



HEALING



CONNECTING

ACT III

WHAT UNCERTAINTY TEACHES

Uncertainty rewards those who embrace it with connections too rare to be found in ordinary life, forging bonds that transcend circumstance.

Some of those bonds become so singular that even farewell must take its own form—relationships too special for ordinary goodbyes. Ashes carried in a tequila bottle and released along a distant shore.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

This film shaped me far more than I shaped it.



Along the way, we realized we had been searching for the answer to the wrong question. Somewhere in Baja, we found the one we should have been asking. That question became deeply personal: how much of our fear is protecting us, and how much of it is quietly keeping us from becoming who we might otherwise be? What we found was less about conquering fear of the unknown than learning to live honestly beside it — and that the life waiting beyond that fear may begin with simply taking a step *Into Uncertainty*.

-Ryan G. Christen

FILM INFORMATION

Into Uncertainty

An Exploration of Risk

FORMAT	Feature Documentary Nonfiction Adventure Film
RUNTIME	126 minutes
YEAR	2026
COUNTRY	United States
LANGUAGE	English
ASPECT / SOUND	4K – 16:9 Stereo



*“The greatest risk may
be waiting for
certainty.”*

BAJAXL INTO UNCERTAINTY

AN EXPLORATION OF RISK



WEBSITE



INSTAGRAM



YOUTUBE



PRESS



EMAIL

IMDB Film Profile: Intouncertainty.com/imdb

FilmFreeway: FilmFreeway.com/IntoUncertainty

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PRESS & FESTIVAL INFORMATION

Private screener available
Press kit available
Festival poster available



CERTAINTY KEEPS US SAFE. UNCERTAINTY REMINDS US TO LIVE.



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