



# CHASING THE SUN

A journey through science,  
Aboriginal knowledge,  
and the beauty of orchids

1 X 45 MIN  
DOCUMENTARY



# Logline

In one of the world's most remote and biodiverse regions, an Italian biologist and her partner set out to uncover the hidden dynamics between native orchids and their pollinators. What begins as a scientific expedition gradually reveals a deeper truth—one long preserved in Aboriginal knowledge, encoded in nature's patterns and rhythms. This story explores the boundaries of understanding, the meaning of being human, and the shared pursuit of truth across cultures and time.





# The Key Concept

Each orchid and each signal in nature is part of a larger puzzle. Science and Aboriginal knowledge intertwine as two distinct yet complementary perspectives. As we journey deeper into this research, we come to realize that, in the end, the truth is one.

But we won't reveal it just yet.

# Director's approach

Chasing The Sun is a documentary set in Australia that delves into the relationship between humans and nature, using the captivating world of orchids as its narrative tool. Our approach is guided by a series of precise choices aimed at crafting an immersive and engaging narrative:

- **Blending human encounters with nature**
- **Capturing the vastness of Australian landscapes**
- **Showcasing the Sun Orchids**
- **A Journey through diverse settings**





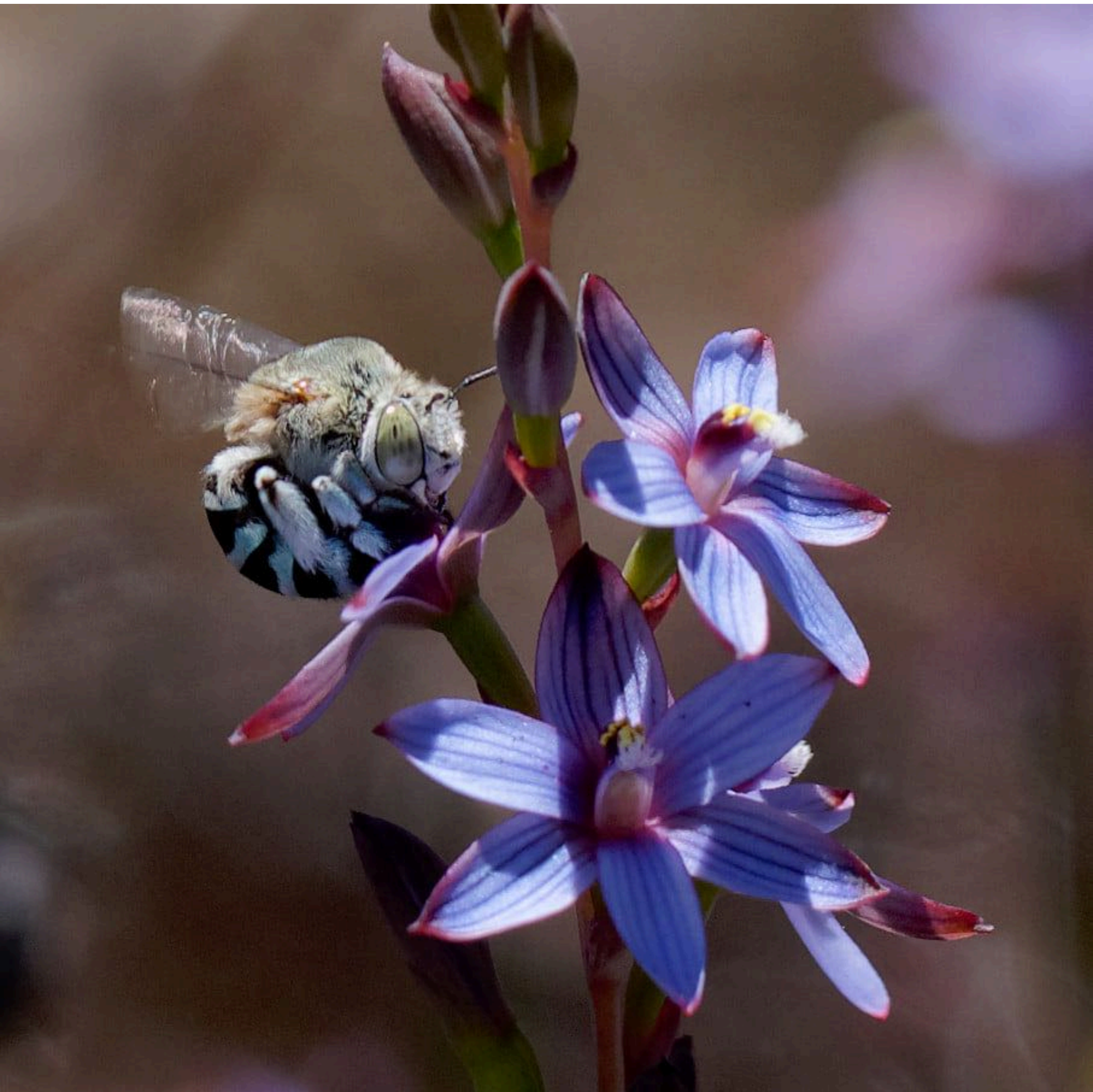
# Blending human encounters with nature

The protagonists' journey will be punctuated by spontaneous and authentic encounters with various guests in outdoor settings, always surrounded by the natural wonders of Australia. These genuine moments of connection, shaped by the environment itself, will be one of the film's greatest strengths — transforming the documentary into a true cinematic experience. The environment will play an active role, shaping each moment of the film.

# Capturing the vastness of Australian landscapes

Australia's vast and diverse natural beauty will be highlighted through wide, fixed-frame shots and aerial drone footage. These techniques will emphasize the immensity of the landscapes, from the wild bush to rocky coastlines.





# Showcasing the Sun Orchids

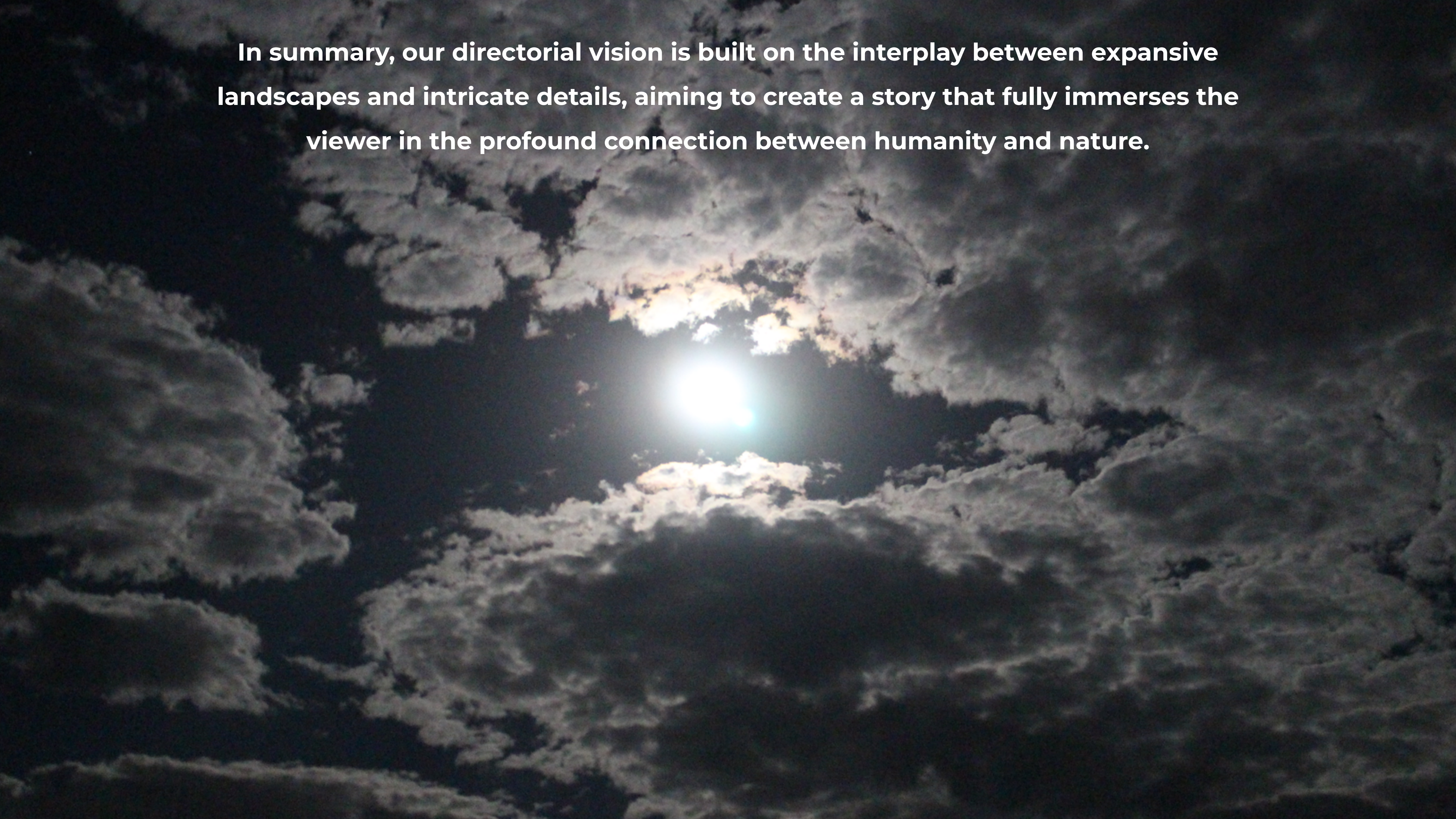
The Sun Orchids, rare and stunning in both shape and colour, are the true stars of the documentary. Through macro lenses, I will bring the audience into their intricate microcosm, offering an up-close exploration of their beauty and mechanisms.

# A Journey through diverse settings

The journey of Chasing The Sun traverses wild bushland, rugged coastlines, and eucalypt forests. To create a sense of rhythm and fluidity, I will use timelapses — both day and night — to mark transitions and enhance the narrative's pace.



**In summary, our directorial vision is built on the interplay between expansive landscapes and intricate details, aiming to create a story that fully immerses the viewer in the profound connection between humanity and nature.**



# Visual approach

Chasing The Sun will be filmed with a visual language that captures both the vastness of the Australian landscape and the intricate beauty of its botanical gems. By shifting between sweeping wide shots and intimate close-ups, we will contrast macro views of the wilderness with the micro-world of native orchids, conveying a dual perspective of scale and sensitivity.

- Natural light is not a stylistic choice—it is a narrative tool. The film will rely entirely on sunlight to preserve the authentic palette of the land, especially the chromatic variations of Sun Orchids, whose daily blooming cycle mirrors our own connection to the sun. This rhythm, shared by people, plants, and the land itself, echoes a deep truth embedded in Aboriginal cosmology—where the sun is a giver of life, time, and meaning.

- The faces and expressions of our protagonists—scientists, travellers, Indigenous guides—will be carefully framed to capture moments of awe, joy, connection, and transformation. Through this, the film becomes not only a natural immersion, but a human and ontological journey towards the heart.





# Narrative Arc

## Moment 1:

### Discovery of a New Land

The story opens as Daniela and Andrea arrive from Italy, drawn by the Sun Orchids, plants so elusive that their pollination strategy remains unconfirmed.



## Moment 2:

### The Scientific Journey Unfolds

As fieldwork intensifies, so does the pace of the narrative. Through long days in the bush, Daniela begins uncovering clues: signs that the Sun Orchids may mimic buzz-pollinated plants to attract native bees.



## Moment 3: Connections

The film takes a turn as Daniela and Andrea begin to connect with leading experts: Professor Mario Vallejo-Marín (a buzz-pollination specialist and National Geographic Explorer), Professor Monica Gagliano (a pioneer in plant behaviour), and Professor Mark Brundrett (a world expert in orchid biology).



## **Moment 4:**

### **A Tapestry of Meaning Emerges**

In this final act, the threads begin to weave together. The relationship with Nina and Bill deepens. Their stories reframe the scientific findings into a broader spiritual and ecological narrative.



# Themes

- Beauty as Knowledge
- Interconnectedness of nature
- Complementary ways of knowing:  
Science & Indigenous wisdom
- Contemplation and humility in the face  
of complexity



# Characters



- Daniela Scaccabarozzi – Biologist
- Andrea Aromatisi – Science educator
- Bill & Nina Webb – Wardandi Nyungar Elders
- Other Scientific Experts – Monica Gagliano, Mario Vallejo-Marín, Mark Brundrett



## Why Now?

In a time marked by disconnection — from nature, from each other, from ourselves — this film offers a path back. Through the delicate power of listening, it shows how beauty, science, and ancient wisdom can reawaken wonder, emotion, and a sense of belonging.

# TEAM

Nicola Rota – Film Director

Italian filmmaker shaping the documentary's visual and narrative style.

Daniela Scaccabarozzi – Lead Scientist & Co-Creative Director

Biologist and science communicator leading the film's research and narrative with a focus on orchid pollination.

Andrea Aromatisi – Co-Creator & Community Liaison

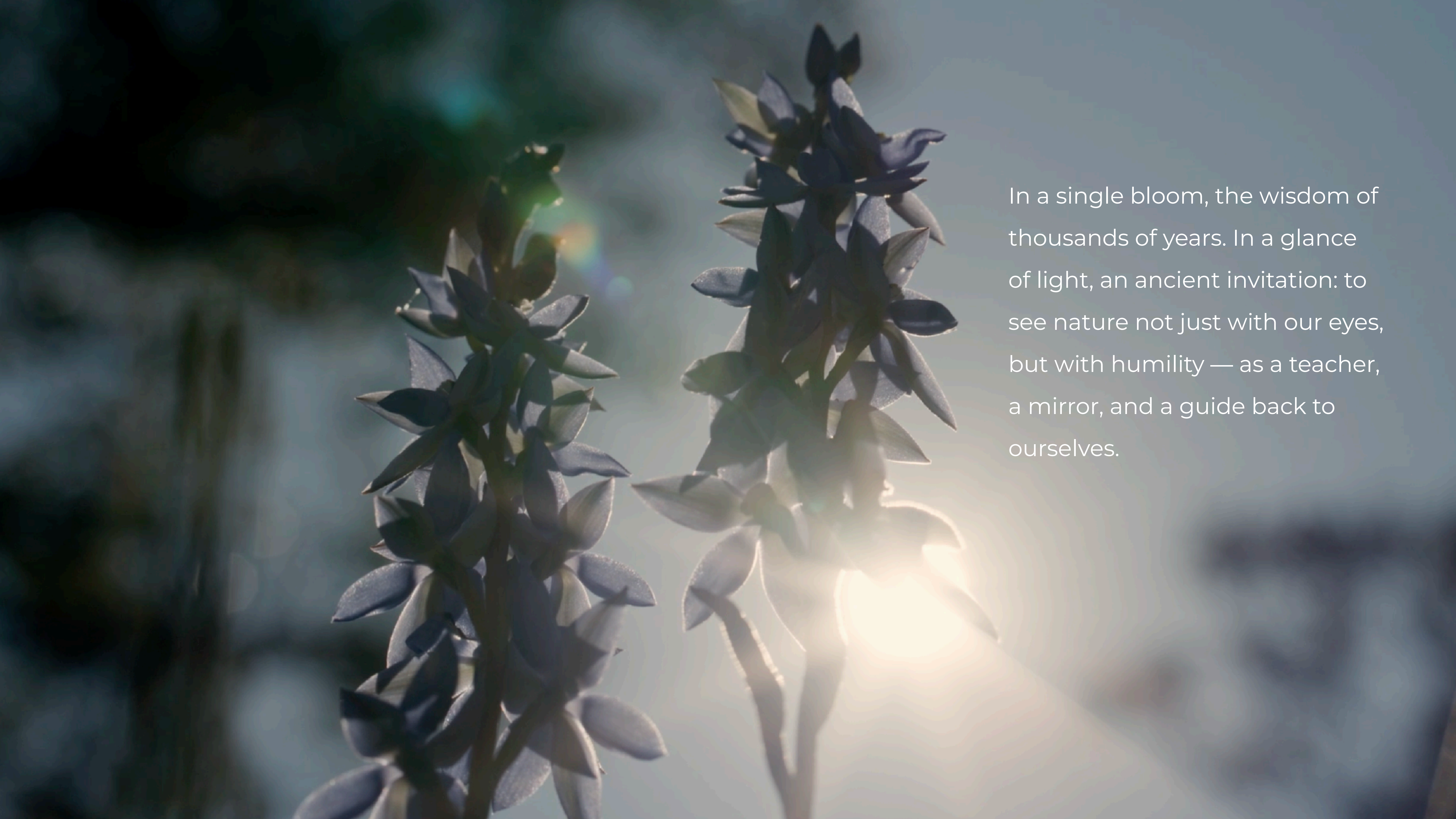
Environmental educator ensuring ethical collaboration with Indigenous communities.

David Karsten – Local Producer / Field Logistics Coordinator  
Experienced producer managing on-ground logistics and remote field operations.

Jane Manning – Mentor / Strategic Advisor (Australia)

Award-winning director advising on story development and creative strategy.





In a single bloom, the wisdom of thousands of years. In a glance of light, an ancient invitation: to see nature not just with our eyes, but with humility — as a teacher, a mirror, and a guide back to ourselves.

# One Shared Truth

Our journey takes us beyond science, beyond culture, into the very heart of nature. There, we encounter something profound — an insight that unites us. A truth that belongs to no one, yet reveals itself to those who truly listen. And perhaps...that is the orchid's gift: not answers, but a way of seeing.

