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## press release

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### ***The Keys to Paradise Celebrates Community Amidst Challenge***

*Documentary film & reality series portray the Florida Keys as you've never seen them*

ISLAMORADA, FL, – The Florida Keys are among the most famous communities in the United States, and among its least understood. *The Keys to Paradise: Northern Keys*, a new feature-length documentary film from Compass Pictures and DK Ventures 21 LLC, brings the natural wonder and human drama of the Keys vividly to life. A companion television series is in post-production and will be available in 2022.

The Keys are a series of small individual communities connected by a single road, and residents of each island must band together to take on everyday challenges and major disasters alike.

“The idea for *The Keys to Paradise* started with Dush Pathmanandam, a friend of mine who lives there, about how the COVID-19 pandemic had affected his town,” says producer Román Jáquez. “In New York, where I live, and all throughout the mainland, the pandemic turned everything upside-down. But the Keys are different, and the more I learned, the more fascinatingly unique they became.”

*The Keys to Paradise: Northern Keys* is available for distribution in all major markets. Representatives of Compass Pictures will promote the film at Cannes’ MIPCOM event in October and at AFM in Sana Monica a month later.

The first season of *The Keys to Paradise* goes even deeper, exploring crucial issues through the real-life drama of a large cast, including:

- Mike Walsh, a boat captain, dive instructor, husband, and father of three
- Captain Matt Bellenger, who leads fishing expeditions throughout the Everglades and Gulf of Florida, uses his radio show to educate tourists about our impact on an increasingly fragile ecosystem
- Madelaydis Cervantez, a Cuban immigrant and single mother who struggles to make ends meet as a small business owner at one of the Keys’ most popular destinations
- Frank and Monica, who retired to their own tiny island, whose status as a wildlife refuge is constantly threatened by debris left by tourists
- Sarah and Sabrina, best friends and business partners whose successful realty company belies their vastly different personalities

Future seasons of *The Keys to Paradise* will explore other unique, close-knit communities, including those in the French Alps, along the Dead Sea, and protected by the Great Barrier Reef.

*To learn more, or to arrange a screening, please contact Román Jáquez of Compass Films at 310-266-8070 or [roman@filmforhope.com](mailto:roman@filmforhope.com) [www.thekeystoparadise.tv](http://www.thekeystoparadise.tv)*