



44th WORLD FEST HOUSTON Film Festival: Tom Nitsch wins the PLATINUM AWARD for „STRIKING THE BALANCE“ and - even one level higher - the SPECIAL JURY AWARD for „WESTWARD TO ELEONORA“

After receiving The Silver Award for his first yachting-documentary “La Nioulargue” in 1993 the two new awards are the 11th and 12th time GOLD and higher for his yachting films. A series of films focussing on yachting events, spectacular restorations or state of the art brand new superyacht-projects. Each one reveals the beauty and the skills of the world under sail and brings at the same time yachting history back to life for the viewer - sailors as well as an amazingly large fan community of non sailors.

Tom always needs to be forced a little to join Worldfest, a co-worker knows, but sitting in his editing lounge while he was working on the final cut I immediately felt this film was going to strike viewers cords!

Having a lifelong love affair with his historic 125m2 Seefahrtkreuzer „AR“, which Henry Rasmussen build for himself in 1936, Tom is deeply involved with restoration and yacht history; „From Westward to Eleonora“ shows his exceptional way to transcend the historic Big-Class theme while opening one´s eyes to the beauty of pure design, the elegance of sailing-action and the genius of the old days combined with the high spirit of some people of modern days.

Doing the maintenance of his 63feet wooden yacht for 30 years now and cruising the Baltic for around 45 years after his early years at the Elbe, Tom knows quite a bit about „Striking the Balance“. This film produced for „Royal Huisman Shipyard“ examines this issue with a twinkle in the eye, basing its „research“ on a cartoon contrasting the numbers of work / worry hours with the ones spent having fun.... „Help“ is taken by classic yachting experience scenes with f.e. Hunphrey Bogart or Marilyn Monroe.

Running projects themes at the moment are „The Skerrycruisers“, the „The Dragons“ and a breathtaking project for Lürssen making all of our team just thankful that we are given the honor to witness this. And then there is after the „Westward to Eleonora“ premiere at the Pantaenius evening the need for part II of Big Class history. Everybody of the Pantaenius guests is waiting for this at the next Düsseldorf Show: „Eleonora to Atlantic.....“.

Balancing Toms personal workload in 2012 it seems to be a great idea to join Worldfest with this again, the only film festival in the world presenting a Sailing Regatta with a relaxing Texas BBQ on its final day after the Awards Gala Night.

[www.tom-nitsch-images.de](http://www.tom-nitsch-images.de)

