

# Shrimp Boat Sound Studios: Echoes from the Edge

*A Documentary Film by Michael J. Kirk*

At the very edge of America, where the ocean stretches endlessly and time seems to slow, there is a small, weathered building standing over the water in the heart of the Key West Bight.

Most people walk right past it.

But for decades, that place—**Shrimp Boat Sound Studios**, built by Jimmy Buffett—became something sacred. It was where artists came not to chase hits... but to rediscover why they made music in the first place.

## **This is a story about more than a studio.**

It's about:

- A way of life that can't be manufactured
- A community that shaped creativity in quiet, powerful ways
- The thread between place, people, and song

Artists like **George Strait, Kenny Chesney, Alan Jackson, James Taylor, and Zac Brown** didn't just record here... They *felt something here*. And that feeling made its way into songs that became the soundtrack of millions of lives.

## **But today... that place is silent.**

The studio sits empty. The stories are still there—but they won't last forever.

The people who lived it, who created there, who understood what made it special... they are ready to share it now. But if we don't capture it—**we lose it**.

## **Why this film matters**

This film is not about nostalgia. It is about **preservation**. Before Shrimp Boat Sound was a studio, it was part of the working waterfront—a place tied to the daily lives of shrimpers in the Key West Bight. That spirit never left. And now, we have a chance to protect that history—not in memory alone, but in a film that can be seen, felt, and shared for generations.

## **Tourism!**

This film won't just attract viewers — it will move people to visit. With the iconic setting of Key West, the legacy of Jimmy Buffett, and stories from legendary artists, *Shrimp Boat Sound: Echoes from the Edge* has the power to inspire a new wave of tourism. Audiences will want to stand in the Key West Bight, feel the energy of the studio, and connect with the place where so

much unforgettable music was born. This is more than a film — it's an invitation to experience a living piece of music history.

## **Where we are right now**

We have already begun.

- Filming has been underway for over 6 months
- 7 interviews have been completed in Key West with 10 more to go to complete filming
- Major artists and voices have committed to participate
- The Jimmy Buffett Estate has expressed support, sharing that *“this is exactly what Jimmy would have wanted”*

There is momentum. There is belief. We are close.

## **What we need**

We have raised the majority of the funding. But to finish this film—to capture the remaining voices, to complete the story with the care it deserves—we need help.

We are asking for **\$100,000** to bring this film across the finish line.

This is about being part of something that will **outlast all of us**.

Your support means:

- These stories are not lost
- This place is not forgotten
- This piece of Key West—and American music history—is preserved forever
- A strong potential for increase in destination tourism

## **A moment that says everything**

Standing inside the empty studio, **Mac McAnally** looked around and asked:

*“Do you think this film can help save this place... and its story?”*

The answer is yes. But only if we do it **now**.

This film is a chance to hold onto something that matters. Not just for Key West. Not just for music. But for anyone who has ever been moved by a song... and wondered where that feeling came from.

**Help us tell this story. Help us preserve this place. Give viewers around the world a sense of Key West and the impact that tiny studio has played on so many of their lives.**