



## BIG BLUE LIVE Bios

### Dr. M. Sanjayan – Host



Dr. M. Sanjayan is a leading conservation scientist, writer, public speaker and Emmy-nominated news contributor, specializing in how conservation can improve human well-being. He serves on Conservation International's senior leadership team as executive vice president and senior scientist. Earlier this year, he hosted the PBS series [EARTH – A NEW WILD](#), produced by National Geographic Television in association with Passion Pictures, which revealed how humans are inextricably linked with nature. Dr. Sanjayan's broad-reaching television experience includes the BBC documentary *Planet Earth: The Future*, and Discovery Channel's *Expedition Alaska, Mysteries of the Shark Coast* and its acclaimed four-part series on energy, *Powering the Future*.

Dr. Sanjayan holds a masters degree from the University of Oregon and a doctorate from the University of California, Santa Cruz. His peer-reviewed scientific work has been published in journals including *Science*, *Nature* and *Conservation Biology*. He is a Clinton Global Initiative Senior Advisor, a Catto Fellow at the Aspen Institute and a member of National Geographic Society's Explorers Council.

### Dr. Joy S. Reidenberg – Scientist



Dr. Joy S. Reidenberg, Ph.D., is a comparative anatomist who has traveled the world to study a variety of species ranging from insects to whales. Her research is focused on examining unusual anatomical adaptations that evolved from the same basic structures present in other animals, including humans. Dr. Reidenberg's research and scientific expertise have been featured in many science and educational television documentaries. She was a co-host of PBS' [SEX IN THE WILD](#), which examined animal reproduction, and [INSIDE NATURE'S GIANTS](#), which explored the anatomy, function and evolution of large animals.

Dr. Reidenberg is a professor at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York City. Her work has garnered many awards, including a BAFTA for [INSIDE NATURE'S GIANTS](#) and the Basmajian Award of the American Association of Anatomists (the highest prize in her field, honoring excellence in both teaching and research).



### **Bill Gardner – Vice President, Programming and Development, PBS**



Bill Gardner oversees the acquisition, development and production of historical, cultural, current and world events, natural history and science programming for the PBS primetime schedule as vice president of programming and development. Before joining PBS, Gardner was executive producer at Discovery Studios, where he developed projects in the reality, lifestyle and science genres. He also oversaw national productions including Animal Planet's *Puppy Bowl* and served as showrunner on Science Channel's *Human Nature with Dan Riskin*.

Gardner has produced nonfiction television in more than 30 countries, including two months embedded with U.S. Special Forces investigating the looting of a Baghdad museum. He became the first westerner allowed to film inside the holy Shi'i Shrines of Hussein and Abbas in Karbala. He is a member of the board of CINE and holds a masters degree in cultural anthropology.

### **James Honeyborne – Producer, BBC**

James Honeyborne, based at the BBC's Natural History Unit, is the producer and director of award-winning wildlife TV documentaries for BBC, Discovery Channel and National Geographic. He has made wildlife films for more than 20 years. Most recently, he was series producer on BBC's landmark series *Africa* (2013), narrated by Sir David Attenborough.

Honeyborne's other recent credits include *Wildlife on One* and *The Natural World*. He also directed a feature-length wildlife drama, *Meerkats – The Movie*, for Harvey Weinstein BBC Films (2009).