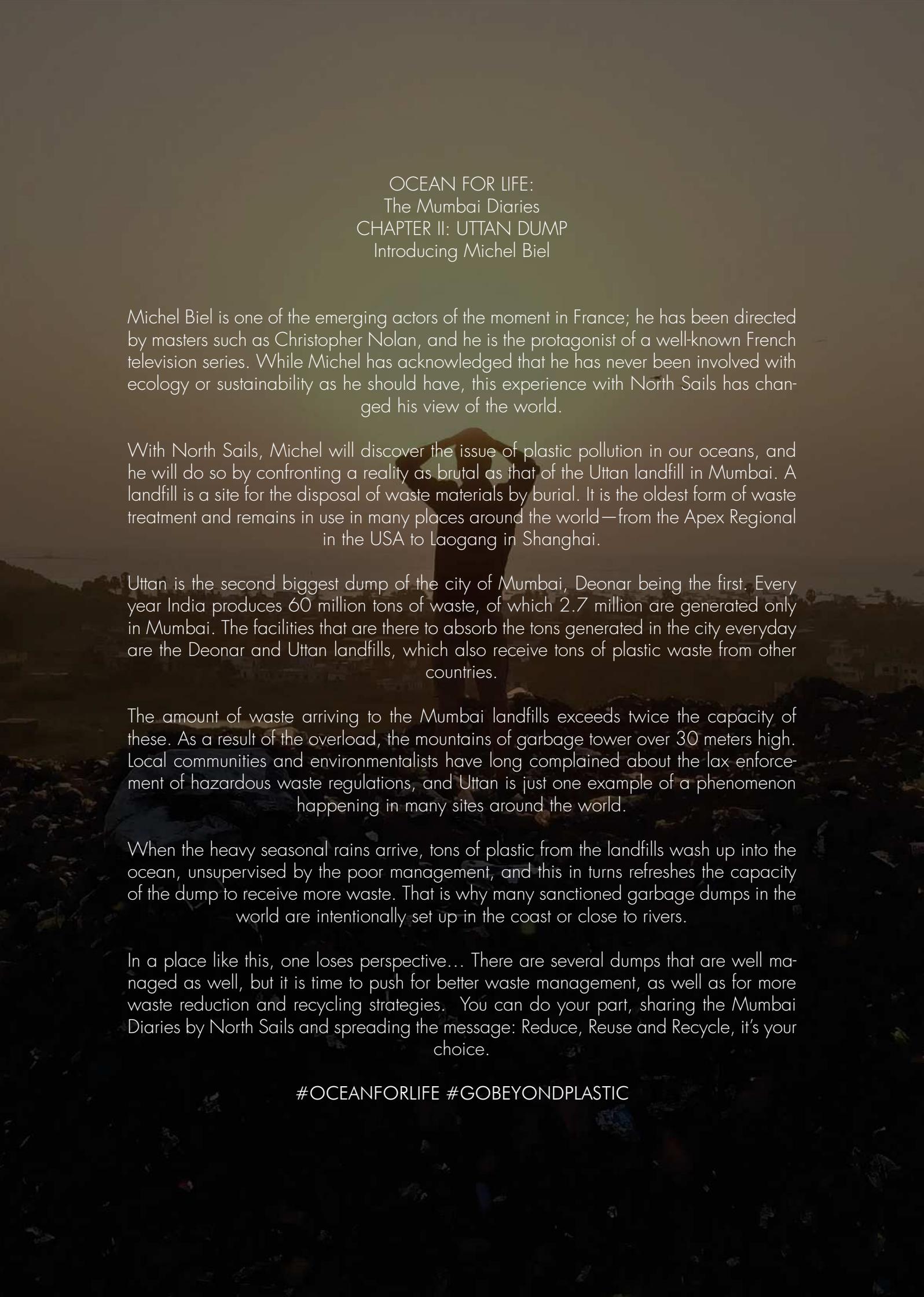


THE MUMBAI DIARIES

CHAPTER II: UTTAN DUMP

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OCEAN FOR LIFE:
The Mumbai Diaries
CHAPTER II: UTTAN DUMP
Introducing Michel Biel

Michel Biel is one of the emerging actors of the moment in France; he has been directed by masters such as Christopher Nolan, and he is the protagonist of a well-known French television series. While Michel has acknowledged that he has never been involved with ecology or sustainability as he should have, this experience with North Sails has changed his view of the world.

With North Sails, Michel will discover the issue of plastic pollution in our oceans, and he will do so by confronting a reality as brutal as that of the Uttan landfill in Mumbai. A landfill is a site for the disposal of waste materials by burial. It is the oldest form of waste treatment and remains in use in many places around the world—from the Apex Regional in the USA to Laogang in Shanghai.

Uttan is the second biggest dump of the city of Mumbai, Deonar being the first. Every year India produces 60 million tons of waste, of which 2.7 million are generated only in Mumbai. The facilities that are there to absorb the tons generated in the city everyday are the Deonar and Uttan landfills, which also receive tons of plastic waste from other countries.

The amount of waste arriving to the Mumbai landfills exceeds twice the capacity of these. As a result of the overload, the mountains of garbage tower over 30 meters high. Local communities and environmentalists have long complained about the lax enforcement of hazardous waste regulations, and Uttan is just one example of a phenomenon happening in many sites around the world.

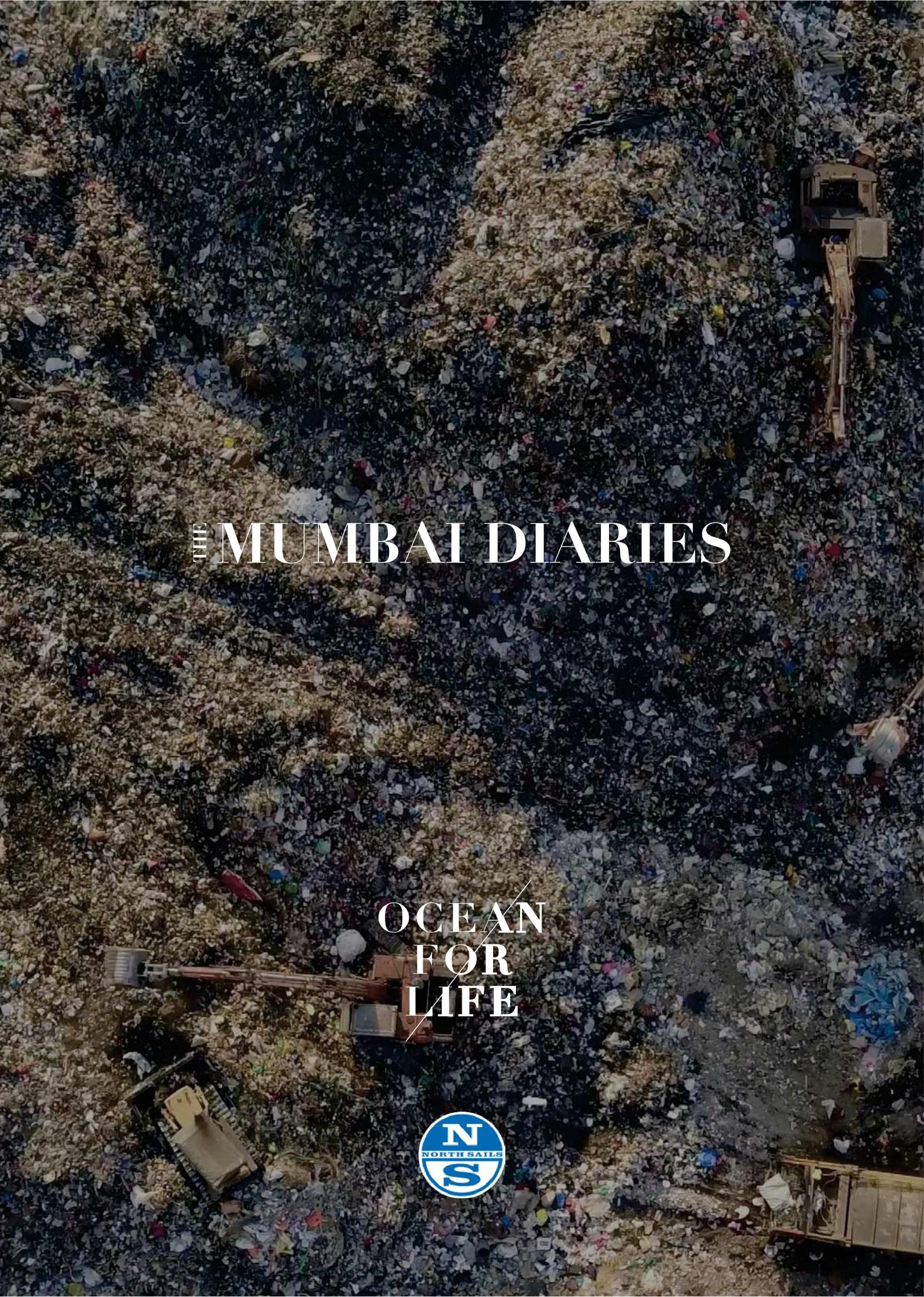
When the heavy seasonal rains arrive, tons of plastic from the landfills wash up into the ocean, unsupervised by the poor management, and this in turns refreshes the capacity of the dump to receive more waste. That is why many sanctioned garbage dumps in the world are intentionally set up in the coast or close to rivers.

In a place like this, one loses perspective... There are several dumps that are well managed as well, but it is time to push for better waste management, as well as for more waste reduction and recycling strategies. You can do your part, sharing the Mumbai Diaries by North Sails and spreading the message: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle, it's your choice.

#OCEANFORLIFE #GOBEYONDPLASTIC

MICHEL BIEL



An aerial photograph showing a vast, dark landscape covered in a thick layer of garbage. Several excavators are visible, working on the waste. The scene is somber and highlights the scale of the waste problem.

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