

“For the Inuit everything
has an *Anirniq*, a soul.”

The schooner *Opal* sailed from Constable Pynt, Greenland, through Hurry Fjord in the direction of Ittoqqortoormiit. Aboard *Opal* were Captain Heimir Harðarson, travel writer Marco Barneveld, and photographer René Koster. Their goal during this brief Arctic summer: to explore Scoresbysund, a fjord system 350 kilometers (217 miles) long, accessible for only three months of the year. From October to June the sea froze.

As *Opal* approached Solglacier, a 12-kilometer (7-mile) long mass of ice moving at a rate of 10 meters (33 feet) per day, Marco heard an insolent lump of ice scraping against the schooner’s bow; otherwise, the sea lay tranquil, and Captain Heimir gave the command to pull in the sails as they steered deeper into the mouth of Scoresbysund. Below, ice chunks interrupted the darkness of the water.

