

## **Banff Centre Mountain Film Festival World Tour Films 2020/2021**

### **12 000 KM**

(2019, Sweden, 28 minutes)

Filmmaker: Erik Nylander, Blizzard Visuals  
Advisory: PG - Coarse language

**Film Synopsis:** The prevailing climate threat inspires a group of Swedish friends to travel by train and ferry from Stockholm all the way to Japan, in search of deep powder and the adventure of a lifetime. Along the world's longest train ride, they make various stops in Siberia's remote forests, exploring untouched mountains and experiencing the special Russian culture from the interior.

### **24 LEECHES**

(2020, USA, 10 minutes)

Filmmaker: Aaron Peterson, Aaron Peterson Studios  
Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** 24 Leeches documents a family canoe adventure to the Slate Islands of Ontario, Canada and more importantly a way of life. One part family adventure, one part environmental film, 24 Leeches is a tribute to a father's best friend and adventure partner, his 10-year-old son.

### **A FEW STEPS FROM HOME**

(2020, Germany, 7 minutes)

Filmmaker: Philipp Becker, Johannes Müller, El Flamingo GmbH  
Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** The idea is simple. A small mountain hut, a warm stove, and three friends. Even if the big cities of Munich and Innsbruck are almost in sight, wild mountain adventures can often be found right out the back door.

### **ACCOMPLICE: THE PASSPORT**

(2020, USA, 8 minutes)

Filmmaker: Jeremy Grant, Teton Gravity Research  
Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** Hannah Bergemann and Veronique Sandler travel to the high Himalayas near Ladakh, India to explore remote mountain ranges and ride unexplored lines in this segment from Teton Gravity Research's mountain bike film, ACCOMPLICE.

### **ACCOMPLICE: THE TIME MACHINE**

(2020, USA, 6 minutes)

Filmmaker: Jeremy Grant, Teton Gravity Research  
Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** Brothers Cam and Tyler McCaul head to Virgin, UT for a two-wheeled game of follow the leader in this segment from Teton Gravity Research's mountain bike film, ACCOMPLICE.

## ATTLA

(2019, USA, 61 minutes)

Filmmaker: Catharine Axley  
Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** Spanning his fifty-year dogsled racing career, ATTLA explores the life and persona of George Attla, from his childhood as a tuberculosis survivor in the Alaskan interior, to his rise as ten-time world champion and mythical state hero, to a village elder resolutely training his grandnephew to race his team one last time.

## CHARGE 2

(2020, Canada, 4 minutes)

Filmmaker: Anthony Bonello, Mike Douglas, Mike Gamble, Switchback Entertainment  
Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** Five top freeskiers and one World Champion drone pilot go cat skiing in BC for a week. Their instructions: charge as hard as you can every day.

## CHOLITAS (TOUR EDIT)

(2019, Spain, 53 minutes)

Filmmaker: Jaime Murciego, Pablo Iraburu, Arena Comunicación Audiovisual  
Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** Five Indigenous Bolivian women embark on a unique expedition as a symbol of liberation and empowerment. Their goal? The highest peak in the Americas, Aconcagua.

## CLIMBING BLIND (TOUR EDIT)

(2019, UK, 46 minutes)

Filmmaker: Alastair Lee, Posing Productions  
Advisory: PG

**Film Synopsis:** Jesse Dufton was born with 20% central vision. As his sight degenerates, his climbing continues to make remarkable progress. Despite his devastating condition Jesse takes on bigger challenges by attempting to be the first blind person to lead climb the iconic Old Man of Hoy in Scotland.

## FAR FAR EST

(2020, Canada, 8 minutes)

Filmmaker: Zacharie Turgeon  
Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** Most students spend spring break soaking up sun on the beach, but not Charles and Olivier. The duo show us how much fun you can have instead, turning their week off school into a real-life fairy tale, skiing and surfing on the North American east coast.

## FKT

(2019, Canada, 11 minutes)

Filmmaker: Brice Ferré, Brice Ferré Studio

Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** We follow Salomon-athlete Jeanelle Hazlett as she attempts to establish a Fastest Known Time (FKT) record on Mount Brunswick, British Columbia. One wrong step could mean serious injury or death.

## FLY SPITI - THE SHORT ODYSSEY (TOUR EDIT)

(2020, Belgium, 25 minutes)

Filmmaker: Benoit Delfosse, Thomas de Dorlodot, Search Production

Advisory: PG

**Film Synopsis:** Two of the most experienced paragliding pilots engage in exploration of the Spiti Valley in the Indian Himalaya. Thomas de Dorlodot, a multiple world record holder, leads Horacio Llorens, a six-time aerobatic world champion, to find out why few have tried to fly in this place where, according to local folklore, the gods live.

## FREE AS CAN BE

(2020, USA, 31 minutes)

Filmmaker: Samuel Crossley, Justin Sweeney

Advisory: PG - Coarse language

**Film Synopsis:** When Jordan Cannon, a young climber infatuated with climbing history, meets climbing legend Mark Hudon, he commits to helping Mark accomplish his lifelong goal of free-climbing El Capitan.

## FROZEN IN TIME

(2020, USA, 16 minutes)

Filmmaker: Benjamin S Sanford, Matchstick Productions

Advisory: PG

**Film Synopsis:** Lured by the vibe of a bygone era in skiing, three of the sport's pre-eminent stars—Eric Hjørleifson, Mark Abma and Chris Rubens—venture to Mt. Cain, a small, community-run hill on northern Vancouver Island, BC. Getting action shots for a ski film is merely their secondary objective; the principal aim is to camp in the parking lot and immerse themselves in a local scene full of characters and soul. Though the margins for success were slim due to the island's notorious weather, the little area that could delivered on every front, from the powder to the people to the welcomed disconnect and step back in time.

## IMAGINE

(2020, India, 11 minutes)

Filmmaker: Prashant Bhatt, 4Play Media And Communication LLP

Advisory: PG

**Film Synopsis:** For years Kieren D'Souza has been planning a new speed record on the 53-kilometre route up Mt. Friendship, a peak towering above Manali, the town in Himachal Pradesh where he lives. Hoping to set a snowball in motion, Kieren sets off with the goal of inspiring Indians to experience mountains in a different way.

## K2: THE IMPOSSIBLE DESCENT (TOUR EDIT)

(2020, Austria, 23 minutes)

Filmmaker: Slawomir Batyra, Michal Zamencki, Sławomir Richert, Tom Fish, Red Bull Media House

Advisory: PG

**Film Synopsis:** K2, the Savage Mountain, holds a mythical place in the hearts of climbers around the world - 1 in 4 do not return from it. On July 22, 2018, Polish ski-mountaineer Andrzej Bargiel makes 'the impossible descent' from its summit. He does it solo, and without supplemental oxygen. The mountaineering community are stunned, and mainstream press take notice. In this 24-minute cut - exclusive to the Banff tour - join Andrzej across knife-edge ridges, above 1000m cliffs and down 75-degree slopes in a nail-biting solo ski world first.

## MADMAN TRAILS OF BHUTAN

(2020, Canada, 4 minutes)

Filmmaker: Scott Secco

Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** Join Wyn Masters, Cody Kelley, and Florent Poilane as they explore Bhutan by bike.

## MOTHER EARTH

(2018, France, 6 minutes)

Filmmaker: Damien Vergez, FASTFOKUS

Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** Mother Earth is a short narrated by Daniel Wells, a member of Lil'wat First Nation. The film showcases the deep connection both bikers and First Nations have with nature and the necessity to listen and protect their environment. From open meadows to ancient forests, we discover stunning landscapes through the riding of professional-biker William Robert.

## MOUNT LOGAN

(2020, France, 13 minutes)

Filmmaker: Alexandre Marchessau, Arthur Ghilini

Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** 48 days of adventure, 250 kilometres of ski touring, 3800 metres of ascent up Mt. Logan, a first descent down the East Ridge and a 400-kilometre river trip back to the sea. Fully unsupported, Helias Millerioux, Alexandre Marchesseau, and Thomas Delfino redefine what it means to take a long journey.

## MY LAST DAY OF SUMMER

(2019, USA, 9 minutes)

Filmmaker: Kristina Wayte, Luke Allen Humphrey

Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** It's the last day of summer and Julia is at the local bike shop hoping that her bike can be fixed. While checking out the flashy displays of new bikes and shiny components, a comic book catches her eye and she soon finds herself on a ride like no other.

## NATURAL MYSTIC

(2019, France, 3 minutes)

Filmmaker: Maxime Moulin, Sam Favret, Invade Media

Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** Come aboard for three minutes of thundering skiing with Sam Favret through the Aiguilles Rouges of Chamonix: no gimmicks, no tricks, and no music.

## OCEAN TO ASGARD

(2020, Canada, 34 minutes)

Filmmaker: Heather Mosher, Heather Mosher Media

Advisory: PG - Coarse language

**Film Synopsis:** Four friends travel to Baffin Island for a forty-day human-powered adventure, featuring first ascents, paddle descents, and a surprising number of wild flamingos.

## ONE STAR REVIEWS: NATIONAL PARKS

(2020, USA, 1 minute)

Filmmaker: Alex Massey, Dalia Burde, Avocados and Coconuts

Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** They say National Parks are America's greatest idea. A symbol of excellence and inspiration. Well for some... there's still plenty of room for improvement!

## PATHFINDER - LIFE BEYOND FEAR

(2019, Norway, 10 minutes)

Filmmaker: Dan Lior, Adam Rubin, Raised by Wolves

Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** Pathfinder follows six world-class slackliners on a mission deep in the Norwegian mountains and their attempt at something that's never been seen before:

Walking a highline, elevated in the vastness between two colossal cliffs, illuminated only by the mystical northern lights.

### PIANO TO ZANSKAR (TOUR EDIT)

(2018, UK, 53 minutes)

Filmmaker: Jarek Kotomski, Michal Sulima, Between Friends

Advisory: PG

**Film Synopsis:** Facing his future in retirement, “sitting in deck chairs and eating lemon drizzle cake”, 65-year-old piano tuner, Desmond O’Keeffe, decides instead to take on the most challenging and perilous delivery of his four decade career: transporting a 100 year-old, 80-kilogram, upright piano, from bustling London to the remote heart of the Indian Himalayas.

### PRETTY STRONG: FERNANDA

(2019, USA, 17 minutes)

Filmmaker: Colette McInerney, Julie Ellison, Leslie Hittmeier, Never Not Collective

Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** In this segment of Never Not Collective’s feature length film, we follow Fernanda Rodriguez in El Salto, Mexico, as she runs a campground, owns a climbing gym, and picks her hardest climbing objective in 5 years.

### RETURN TO EL GUAYAS

(2020, USA, 32 minutes)

Filmmaker: Ben Stookesberry

Advisory: PG – Coarse Language

**Film Synopsis:** Ben Stookesberry, Rafa Ortiz and Lane Jacobs attempt the first descent of one of Colombia’s wildest rivers: El Rio Guayas. In the middle of night two, rain pours down, leaving the team stranded in the most remote part of the canyon. With rumors of armed groups in mind, they paddle blindly into the unknown.

### RUNNING THE ROOF (TOUR EDIT)

(2019, UK, 45 minutes)

Filmmaker: Alexis Tymon, Ben Crocker, Sourcy Film

Advisory: PG - Coarse language, nudity (bare bum)

**Film Synopsis:** Three friends, bonded by a love of running, were desperate to ditch their desks and go on an adventure. One night, after a few too many drinks, they placed a bet. They would spin a globe and wherever their finger landed, they would run. This is a story without finish lines or medals but rather a story about what happens when you trust in nothing but your own two feet to carry you across one of the last truly wild landscapes on earth.

## SILKS

(2020, Canada, 4 minutes)

Filmmaker: James Frystak

Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** Driven by the powerful movements of three Squamish adventure athletes, stunning locations and hair-raising exposure, Silks is a short film showcasing the art of an aerial silk performance in a way never seen before.

## SLACK SISTERS

(2020, USA, 4 minutes)

Filmmaker: Kelly Greenheart, Jefe Greenheart, Circus Picnic

Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** Four female highliners share thoughts about the art and sport of highlining and the wisdom each have gained from their time on the line.

## TEMPO. MOVEMENTS IN MOUNTAINS

(2020, USA, 4 minutes)

Filmmaker: Thomas Woodson

Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** A conceptual exploration of the connection Kyle Richardson finds between his athletic pursuits in Boulder's Flatirons, and his background as a musician. Experienced through three short movements, Kyle performs a live score in a visceral interpretation of his expression in the hills.

## TEN THOUSAND BOLTS

(2020, USA, 18 minutes)

Filmmaker: Duncan Sullivan, Alex Levin, Ashley Benzwie

Advisory: PG - Coarse language

**Film Synopsis:** A portrait of Toni Arbones, a professional rock climber and route bolter who, over the course of 30 years, has single-handedly turned Siurana, Spain into one of the most popular rock climbing areas in all of Europe. Bolting is an often overlooked process, integral to climbing and considered by climbers to be a unique art form. It is a craft that Toni has dedicated his life to perfecting.

## THE CHAIRLIFT

(2020, Canada, 12 minutes)

Filmmaker: Mike Douglas, Mike Gamble, Switchback Entertainment

Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** An ode to the often overlooked device that enabled a sport and still acts as a central pillar of ski culture to this day.

## THE ELDER (THE WINTER)

(2020, USA, 11 minutes)

Filmmaker: Tim Kemple, Aimee Tetreault, Camp4 Collective

Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** The Ainu are an ancient people of Japan, who largely inhabit Hokkaido, the northernmost of Japan's four main islands. For centuries, Ainu elders have passed down important history, songs, and dances through oral lore. In a remote Kotan called Lake Akan, these traditions live on today.

## THE GHOSTS ABOVE

(2019, USA, 36 minutes)

Filmmaker: Renan Ozturk, Taylor Rees, Jay Macmillan

Advisory: PG - Mature subject matter

**Film Synopsis:** A team sets out to solve one of the greatest mysteries in exploration: who made the first ascent of Mt. Everest. Every stereotype they know about the mountain and its people are turned on its end during this brutally honest look at the current state of affairs during one of the busiest Everest seasons in history.

## THE LEGEND OF TOMMY G

(2020, Canada, 6 minutes)

Filmmaker: Darcy Wittenburg, Scott Jewett, Anthill Films

Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** Where in the world is Tommy G? The Belgian freerider has been a bit aloof lately and wild rumours have been spreading throughout the mountain bike world. Rumours about breaking the sound barrier, riding on water and detonating berms with the sickest of styles.

## THE LONELY STAR

(2019, USA, 4 minutes)

Filmmaker: Frank Pickell, Dan Pizza, Futuristic Films

Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** An ill-fated explorer finds himself marooned on a desolate planet. Alone with his thoughts, he is caught between a sandy reality and snowy hallucinations of winters past.

## THE LONG TODAY

(2020, Canada, 17 minutes)

Filmmaker: Niobe Thompson, Handful of Films

Advisory: PG

**Film Synopsis:** My Dad turned 70 this summer. So he found a "river" on a map, repaired one of his old wood canoes, and invited his family to help him celebrate the big day. Only a few of us showed up.



## THE SECRET OF BOTTOM TURN ISLAND

(2019, USA, 3 minutes)

Filmmaker: Ian Durkin, Alex Yoder

Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** Snowboarder Alex Yoder searches to the ends of the earth for the lost art of "snow-surfing" only to find the answers he seeks on Bottom Turn Island.

## VOICE ABOVE WATER

(2020, USA, 12 minutes)

Filmmaker: Dana Frankoff, Eric Ebner, Turning Tides Films

Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** This is the story of Wayan, a 90-year-old fisherman who can no longer fish because of the amount of plastic piling up in the ocean. Instead he uses his fishing boat and net to pull trash from the water in hopes of being able to fish again.

## WHERE I BELONG

(2019, USA, 9 minutes)

Filmmaker: Chris Cresci, Davis Goslin, Wondercamp

Advisory: PG

**Film Synopsis:** Chris Hill, an environmental lobbyist and angler, never saw people like herself on the river until recently. Through social media platforms like Instagram, traditionally underrepresented voices are creating communities to encourage one another and amplify their message - we belong here too.

## ZEPPELIN SKIING (TOUR EDIT)

(2019, Austria, 5 minutes)

Filmmaker: Stefan Ager, Andreas Gumpenberger, Lensecape Productions

Advisory: None

**Film Synopsis:** It's a world first: three athletes fly with a huge zeppelin to the Eastern Alps in Austria to abseil and ski and snowboard on steep terrain.