

## **Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour Films 2010/2011**

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### ***The Asgard Project* *Best Film on Climbing***

UK, 2009, 60 minutes

Directed and produced by Alastair Lee

Website: <http://www.posingproductions.com>

*The Asgard Project* follows Leo Houlding's ambitious project to make a first free ascent of the North Tower of the incredible Mount Asgard on Baffin Island deep in the Arctic. Houlding teams up with fellow big wall climber Stanley Leary, and the duo hopes to make a wingsuit descent from the summit. Arriving late in the season, the trip soon begins to go wrong. After a spectacular arrival skydiving over Mount Asgard, conditions turn against the team, so that just reaching the base of the climb becomes a massive challenge.

### ***As it Happens***

USA, 2010, 16 minutes

Directed and produced by Renan Ozturk and Cory Richards

Website: <http://camp4collective.com>

Renan Ozturk and Cory Richards "go rogue" and file video dispatches from their attempt at the first ascent of Nepal's 6,000 meter Tawoche Himal. *As it Happens* takes these individual pieces and ties them together in one well-made story that lets a challenging trip unfold as it happens.

### ***AZADI: Freedom***

Canada, 2010, 30 minutes

Directed and produced by Anthony Bonello

Website: [www.b4apres.com](http://www.b4apres.com)

*AZADI: Freedom* takes a look at Kashmir in the wake of the violent militant insurgence of the 90s through the lens of skiing. The unique role that skiing is playing in rebuilding tourism in Kashmir is explored using cinematography, animation, and the story of local characters. The film crew explores the future presented to young Kashmiri as they venture into the mountains — on backcountry skis. The world's highest skiable gondola sits amid the most militarized region in the world, yet the freedom of adventure is drawing foreigners back to this former Shangri-La.

### ***Chimæra***

Canada, 2010, 7 minutes

Directed by Dave Mossop

Produced by Malcom Sangster

Website: [www.rockymountainherpas.com](http://www.rockymountainherpas.com)

"Chimæra" refers to a mythological fusion of forms or a foolish fantasy. Shot with a unique camera system capable of shooting over 1000 frames per second, *Chimæra* slows our perception of reality and offers an unprecedented look at a skier's life. It is an experience that blurs the borders between real and imaginary.

## ***Crossing the Ditch***

### ***Best Film on Exploration and Adventure***

Australia, 2009, 55 minutes

Produced by Greg Quail, Douglas Howard & Justin Jones

Website: [www.quail.tv](http://www.quail.tv) and [www.crossingtheditch.com.au/](http://www.crossingtheditch.com.au/)

Spanning 2200 kilometres between Australia and New Zealand, the Tasman Sea is one of the world's deadliest and most treacherous oceans. No one had ever successfully navigated the Tasman by kayak, although many had tried. *Crossing the Ditch* tells the story of two young Australians, James Castrission and Justin Jones, who battle ten-metre towering waves, massive storms, shark-filled seas, and strong currents to conquer the Tasman Sea.

## ***Deeper***

(*Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour edit*)

USA, 2010, 27 minutes

Directed by Jeremy Jones

Produced by Steve Jones

Website: [www.tetongravity.com](http://www.tetongravity.com)

Follow Jeremy Jones and other top freeriders as they venture past the boundaries of helicopters, snowmobiles, and lifts to explore untouched realms. Hang on tight in *Deeper* as Jones faces the biggest challenges he has ever encountered in snowboarding. All night hikes, sleeping on peaks, camping 65 miles from civilization, 20 below temperatures, 10 day storms, and 30 kilometre days bring the adventure back into riding. This film is 100 per cent carbon neutral.

## ***Dream Result***

(*Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour edit*)

### ***Radical Reels People's Choice Award***

USA, 2009, 17 minutes

Directed by Rush Sturges

Produced by Tyler Bradt

Website: [www.Rev-Inn.com](http://www.Rev-Inn.com)

A group of top athletes and friends are driven by passion to explore the limits of possibility. Expeditions to Norway and a quest for waterfalls throughout Argentina and the US are all part of the program in *Dream Result* — so hang on for the ride!

## ***Eastern Rises***

### ***Best Film on Mountain Sports***

USA, 2010, 38 minutes

Directed by Ben Knight

Produced by Travis Rummel

Website: [www.feltsoulmedia.com](http://www.feltsoulmedia.com) and [www.easternrises.com](http://www.easternrises.com)

The Kamchatka Peninsula in the Russian Far East may as well be the end of the earth. Its enormously wild landscape is swarming with bugs and bears and threaded with rivers full of massive mouse-eating trout. In the stunning film *Eastern Rises*, fishing is poetry, Bigfoot lurks in the fog, and fishermen risk life and limb in decommissioned Cold War helicopters to explore rivers that have never been fished before.

### ***The Fall Line***

USA, 2010, 13 minutes

Directed and Produced by Tyler Stableford

Website: [www.tylerstableford.com](http://www.tylerstableford.com)

After losing his legs in a grenade blast in Iraq, 101st Airborne Ranger Heath Calhoun endures a tortuous recovery. Years later, the Virginia native finds freedom in an unlikely location: on the ski slopes of Aspen, Colorado. Calhoun discovers a talent for ski racing and earns a chance to represent his country again — as an athlete on the 2010 Paralympics ski team. With a gold medal in the balance, Calhoun commits everything to the challenge.

### ***Feel the Hill***

*(Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour edit)*

Canada, 2009, 12 minutes

Directed and Produced by J  r  my Comte

The sport of long boarding attracts all kinds of people. *Feel the Hill* demonstrates some of the multiple disciplines of long boarding and the sense of freedom that comes with the sport.

### ***Fly or Die***

***Special Jury Mention***

USA, 2009, 24 minutes

Produced by Nick Rosen and Peter Mortimer

Website: [www.senderfilms.com](http://www.senderfilms.com)

A bold new climbing innovation — Free BASE — is the creation of cutting-edge climber Dean Potter. In *Fly or Die* Potter combines free solo climbing and BASE jumping, on a quest to master disciplines that will lead to a daring evolution of the sport.

### ***Into Darkness***

USA, 2010, 15 minutes

Directed and Produced by John Waller

Website: [www.uncagethesoul.com](http://www.uncagethesoul.com)

*Into Darkness* is a short adventure essay about the experience of exploring the secret underworld of caves. Journey along with a group of cavers who push through impossibly small passages to access some of the final frontiers on Earth. The images and sounds of spectacular and remote wilderness caves will reveal a fantastic world unlike anything we experience on the surface.

### ***Khumbu Climbing School***

USA, 2010, 8 minutes

Directed and Produced by Renan Ozturk and Cory Richards

Website: <http://camp4collective.com>

Through this beautifully crafted film, we learn how the Khumbu Climbing School has contributed to the safety of Nepali climbers, Sherpas, and high-altitude support workers as they learn proper techniques for knot-tying, belaying, and ice climbing from world-class mountaineers. In *Khumbu Climbing School*, it's apparent too, that the school provides more than just training — as one experienced Sherpa says, "I always felt like a yak, even though I had been to the summit of Mount Everest. Now, I'm a climber."

### ***Kranded Kids – Just down the road***

Canada, 2010, 4 minutes

Directed and Produced by Bjørn Enga

Website: [www.radical-films.com](http://www.radical-films.com)

*Kranded Kids – Just down the road* is a delightful four-minute coming-of-age mountain bike parody

### ***Last Paradise***

*(Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour edit)*

NEW ZEALAND, 2010, 26 minutes

Directed and Produced by Clive Neeson

Website: [www.lastparadisefilm.com](http://www.lastparadisefilm.com)

In the remote wilderness of New Zealand, when necessity was the mother of invention, a maverick bunch of kids concocted a dream that they would one day share with the world. In *Last Paradise*, through 45 years of stunning original footage we relive the journey of legendary extreme sports pioneers on the roads less travelled.

### ***A Life Ascending***

***Best Film on Mountain Culture***

***People's Choice Award***

***Audio Post-Production Scholarship***

USA, 2010, 57 minutes

Directed and produced by Stephen Grynberg

Website: [www.alifeascending.com](http://www.alifeascending.com)

Living with his wife and two young daughters on a remote glacier in the Selkirk Mountains of British Columbia, Ruedi Beglinger has built a reputation as one of the top mountaineering guides in the world. *A Life Ascending* follows his family's unique life in the mountains and their journey in the years following a massive avalanche that killed seven people. The film ultimately explores the power of nature as both an unforgiving host and profound teacher.

### ***Life Cycles***

(Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour edit)

Canada, 2010, 14 minutes

Directed and Produced by Ryan Gibb and Derek Frankowski

Website: [www.lifecyclesfilm.com](http://www.lifecyclesfilm.com)

Filmed in Ultra HD, *Life Cycles* provides some of the most visually stunning images the mountain sports world has ever seen. It's a beautiful celebration of the bicycle, and is sure to amaze anyone who has ever ridden one.

### ***The Longest Way***

#### ***Best Short Mountain Film***

Germany, 2009, 5 minutes

Directed and produced by Christoph Rehage

Website: [www.thelongestway.com](http://www.thelongestway.com)

A highly entertaining time-lapse of a one-year-walk from Beijing to Urumqi. Time and distance travelled are charmingly demonstrated by the growth of a beard in this five-minute short.

### ***Miracle in the Storm***

Australia, 2009, 52 minutes

Directed by Nial Fulton

Produced by Guy Norris and Leo Faber

Website: <http://essential-media.com>

In 2007, German paraglider Ewa Wisnierska created history when she survived a harrowing encounter with the fury of nature's power. After being sucked into a massive thunderstorm and pulled up to 10,000 meters, her body faced a multitude of life-threatening forces, including low oxygen, freezing temperatures, and wild weather conditions. There is no exaggeration in the title of *Miracle in the Storm* — Wisnierska managed to navigate her way out of the storm and survive.

### ***Parking Garage: Beyond the Limit***

USA, 2008, 4 minutes

Directed by: John Dabrowski

Produced by: Mark Odlum

A spoof of the Discovery Channel Show, *Everest: Beyond the Limit*.

### ***Rush Hour Dream***

Germany, 2009, 5 minutes

Directed and Produced by Kerim Jaspersen and Christian Menn

An office worker in Düsseldorf, Germany, has a *Rush Hour Dream* in the tramway on his way to work and wakes up on a beautiful mountainside to discover that he is carrying a paraglider in his laptop.

## **SALT**

### ***The Banff Centre Award for Creative Excellence***

Australia, 2009, 28 minutes

Directed and Produced by Michael Angus and Murray Fredericks

Website: [www.saltdoco.com](http://www.saltdoco.com)

Each year, internationally acclaimed photographer Murray Fredericks ventures to the heart of Lake Eyre, which lies in a remote corner of southern Australia. This journey represents a key stage along the photographer's personal and professional path. Completely isolated, the horizon his only point of reference, and his thoughts his only companion, Murray is forced to brave storms, mud, lightning, and all manner of problems; yet his biggest obstacle is salt, which is inescapable. In *Salt*, Fredericks's camera captures scenes and intense moments that prove beauty lies hidden in the midst of this bleak, empty, desolate land.

## ***Still Motion***

Canada, 2008, 5 minutes

Directed and produced by Jonathan Schmidt

Website: [www.morninglightgraphics.com](http://www.morninglightgraphics.com)

Compiled from the highlights of a whole year of wildlife research, still images from motion-triggered wildlife cameras create an intricately sequenced movie-like production of Alberta's amazing wildlife. Playful fawns, stalking cougars, and curious elk take centre stage in *Still Motion*. The film asks an important question: Just who is looking at whom?

## ***Stones into Schools***

USA, 2010, 12 minutes

Directed by John Kuhrt

Produced by Michael Simon

Website: [www.simontv.net](http://www.simontv.net) ; <http://www.ikat.org/>

A behind-the-scenes look at Greg Mortenson's inspiring work to build schools in war-torn Afghanistan, *Stones into Schools* depicts some of the history, challenges, and successes of this remarkable project. Mortenson's book by the same name has been a best seller, along with his first book, *Three Cups of Tea*.

## ***The Swiss Machine***

USA, 2010, 20 minutes

Produced by Nick Rosen and Peter Mortimer

Website: [www.senderfilms.com](http://www.senderfilms.com)

Ueli Steck may be the greatest speed alpinist the world has ever seen. In *The Swiss Machine*, Steck tells of his record-breaking ascents in the Alps, accompanied by stunning aerial footage that captures him racing up 2500-metre alpine faces. When he joins Alex Honnold in Yosemite, Steck sets his ultimate goal: to take his one-man alpine speed game to the largest, highest walls in the world.

***Tibet: Murder in the Snow***

Australia, 2008, 51 minutes

Directed by Mark Gould

Produced by Sally Ingleton

Website: [www.360degreefilms.com.au](http://www.360degreefilms.com.au); [www.tibetmurderinthesnow.com](http://www.tibetmurderinthesnow.com)

In an incident that shocked the world, a teenage Tibetan nun, Kelsang Namtso, was killed when Chinese border police opened fire on a group of pilgrims as they fled Tibet over the infamous Nangpa Pass. The shooting was witnessed by many international mountain climbers, some of whom videotaped or photographed the events and also helped rescue survivors. *Tibet: Murder in the Snow* is the story from their perspective.

***Treasure of the Lisu***

USA, 2010, 30 minutes

Directed and Produced by Yan Chun Su

Website: [www.waterdropfilms.com](http://www.waterdropfilms.com)

*Treasure of the Lisu* paints an intimate portrait of Ah-Cheng, a master musician and one of the last remaining tradition-bearers of the Lisu people, and his family, who live in a remote mountain village in southwest China — an area caught between ancient and modern worlds. It presents a world rarely seen by Westerners — a world that seems so far away, yet the unexpected similarities are striking.

***WildWater***

USA, 2010, 25 minutes

Directed and produced by Anson Fogel

Website: <http://www.forgemotionpictures.com>

When ordinary people share a singular passion, the extraordinary emerges. *WildWater* is a journey into the mind and soul of white-water and an exploration of places only river-runners can go — places of discovery, solitude, and risk. It's a visually stunning feast for the senses, and an expedition into new ideas.

## **Radical Reels Tour Films 2010/2011**

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### ***Cross Country Snowboarding***

Canada, 2007, 3 minutes

Directed by Adam Brodie

Produced by Geoff McLean

Website: [www.AdamAndDave.com](http://www.AdamAndDave.com)

Focus: Spoof / Cross-country snowboarding

Joel and Tate, the world's most dedicated Nordic snowboarders, battle the winter elements as they fight prejudice from skiers and regular snowboarders alike.

### ***Follow Me***

Canada, 2010, 21 minutes

Directed by Darcy Wittenburg

Produced by Ian Dunn

Website: [www.anthillfilms.com](http://www.anthillfilms.com)

Focus: Mountain biking

You're at the head of a trail you have never ridden before. With a knowing look, a friend turns to you and says, "Just follow me!" Depending on who says it makes a pretty big difference for what lies ahead, but whether it's a good idea or not, we almost always drop in. From sending giant step-downs to high-speed trails, it's always better to share the ride.

### ***Light the Wick***

USA, 2010, 25 minutes

Directed and produced by Steve Jones

Website: [tetongravity.com](http://tetongravity.com)

Focus: Skiing

Light the Wick is about sparking the flame and watching the world's best athletes blast off. Once again, TGR's crew of athletes and cinematographers have raised the bar with some of the ski world's most jaw-dropping footage. Follow the crew as they discover the previously unskied big mountain playground of Petersburg, Alaska, enjoy an epic powder day at Jackson Hole, and tear up the park at Stephen's Pass.

### ***Living the Dream***

USA, 2009, 3 minutes

Directed and produced by Renan Ozturk

Website: <http://camp4collective.com>

Focus: Rock Climbing

For most of the last six years, Renan Ozturk has been a traveling vagabond following his passion for rock climbing. This existence involved sleeping outside in wild places, hitching rides, living on little, draining his bank account, and occasionally, dumpster-diving. Now a little more domesticated, Renan shows us he is still living his dream every day.



### ***OSeven***

France, 2010, 6 minutes

Directed by Maxime Moulin

Produced by Nissan Outdoor Games, Chamonix-Mont-Blanc 2010

Website: [www.outdoorgames.ch](http://www.outdoorgames.ch)

Focus: Multi-sport

A group of friends meet up at a chalet in Chamonix Mont Blanc to recount their extreme sport experiences. A loud noise awakens a child and draws him to the place where these stories have been shared. OSeven is based on Sigmund Freud's theory that "happiness is a child's dream fulfilled in maturity."

### ***Second Nature***

USA, 2009, 6 minutes

Directed and produced by Colin Blackshear

Website: [sector9.com](http://sector9.com)

Focus: Downhill longboarding

An exploration of the abstract and the extreme, Second Nature is an examination of the natural boundaries of the human body. Noah Sakamoto, Patrick Rizzo and J.M. Duran star as the test subjects as they wield skateboards and vintage suits to race down the roads of the High Sierras in California.

### ***The Storming***

USA, 2010, 18 minutes

Directed by Travis Robb

Website: [www.standardfilms.com](http://www.standardfilms.com)

Focus: Snowboarding

The Storming is a visual snowboarding feast, born out of the desire to push the limits of the action sport film genre. The Storming features a cast of riders dedicated to advancing the level of the sport in all aspects-- from heart stopping big mountain riding to ground breaking freestyle.

### ***Tuzgle***

France, 2010, 13 minutes

Directed and Produced by Julien Nadiras and Vladimir Cellier

Website: [www.barakaflims.com](http://www.barakaflims.com)

Focus: Bouldering

Nestled under the Tuzgle volcano in Argentina lies an unexplored wonderland of boulders and crags. Tuzgle follows Swiss climber Nina Caprez and her climbing companions as they discover this playground in the desert.

***The Ultimate Ride: Steve Fisher***

USA, 2009, 19 minutes

Directed by Erich Lyttle

Produced by Scott Bradfield

Website: [www.stevfisher.com](http://www.stevfisher.com)

Focus: Whitewater Kayaking

Renowned kayaker Steve Fisher brings together a crew of big-water pros to experience the force of Africa's mighty Zambezi River. Steeped in the brotherhood of kayaking, this documentary showcases Fisher and his crew in the definitive ride of their lives.