

Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour Films 2013/14

35

Best Short Mountain Film — Sponsored by The North Face

(2013, USA, 5 min)

Filmmakers: Nasa Koski, Austin Siadak, Matthe Van Biene, Fitz Cahall

Website: www.ducttapethenbeer.com

35 routes in one day to celebrate 35 years of life? Why not? Take the birthday challenge!

The Beauty of the Irrational

(2012, South Africa, 6 min)

Filmmakers: Dean Leslie, Greg Fell, The African Attachment

Website: www.theafricanattachment.com

Running in the wilds of Namibia can be primal – as utterly simple and beautiful as it is daunting and irrational.

The Burn

(2012, Canada, 6 min)

Filmmakers: Mike Douglas, Jeff Thomas, Switchback Entertainment

Website: www.switchbackentertainment.com

Fire frees new lines for skiers, who revel in the newly-charred forest.

Cascada

(2012, USA, 8 min)

Filmmakers: Anson Fogel, Skip Armstrong, Shannon Ethridge (Camp4 Collective)

Website: www.camp4collective.com

Paddler and cinematographer alike explore a world beyond the unexpected ... and find perfection

Down the Line

(2012, Canada, 22 min)

Filmmaker: Francois-Xavier 'Fix' De Ruydts, De Ruydts Photography

Website: www.deruydtsphotography.com

None of these deep slot canyons and magnificent waterfalls have ever been explored – and once in, the only way out is down.

Dubai - A Skier's Journey

(2012, Canada, 10 min)

Filmmaker: Jordan Manley and Danny Irvine

Website: www.jordanmanley.com

In the midst of a city dizzy with ambition, a dedicated community of desert-dwellers embraces the local ski hill.

Flow: The Elements of Freeride

(2013, USA, 3 min)

Filmmaker: Oly Mingo

Website: www.north40productions.com

Follow Geophysicist Rex Flake on a high-adrenaline mountain bike ride through the Cascade Mountains as he identifies the flora, fauna, and geology of this cinematic region. Uniquely edited without the typical hard core soundtrack, Flow uses creative graphics and sound design to bring the viewer uncomfortably close to the action.

Heavens Gate

Best Film – Mountain Sports—Sponsored by Live Out There

(2013, Finland, 48 min)

Filmmakers: Iiro Seppanen, Nic Good, Pan Pacific Entertainment

Website: www.panpacificentertainment.com

Film Synopsis:

A group of wingsuit pilots gather at Tianmen Mountain in China, the birthplace of the dream of human flight, to attempt an intimidating feat – flying through the sacred site known as Heaven’s Gate, an archway carved out of the mountain. As Jeb Corliss drops from a helicopter and soars toward the opening, nearly a half-billion people hold their breath.

High Tension (Reel Rock 8)

Best Film – Mountain Culture— Sponsored by National Geographic

(2013, USA, 36 min)

Filmmakers: Peter Mortimer, Nick Rosen, Zachary Barr, Josh Lowell,

Website: www.reelrocktour.com

Flying fists, obscenities, and death threats at 23,000 feet? Is this the new Everest reality? This film takes a closer look at the 2013 incident at Camp II that made international headlines and had climbers Ueli Steck, Simone Moro, and Jonathan Griffith running for their lives.

I AM RED

(2013, USA, 4 min)

Filmmaker: Peter McBride

Website: www.petemcbride.com

A visual poem of the Colorado River delivers a simple yet powerful message.

Into the Mind (special edit)

(2013, Canada, 12 min)

Filmmakers: Dave Mossop, Eric Crosland, JP Auclair, Malcolm Sangster,

Website: www.intothemindmovie.com

Amazing skiing, stunning imagery, and fabulous music are showcased in this high-energy excerpt from the feature film

Kayak Free Kayaking

(2013, USA, 5 mins)

Filmmakers: Mark Odlum and John Dabrowski

Website: www.SmartDepartment.com

World Kayak Champion Trip Deacon pushes the limits of the new sport he created- Kayak Free Kayaking. Follow him as he searches for his life's meaning and attempts to conquer his dream in the Heart of Northern California.

Keeper of the Mountains (special edit)

Special Jury Mention

(2013, USA, 16 min)

Filmmakers: Allison Otto, Scott McElroy

Website: www.smalldogonthego.com

Elizabeth Hawley bucked the conventions of her time by settling alone in Kathmandu in 1960, where she began chronicling Himalayan expeditions for The Himalayan Database. Even as she turns 90, she continues to update these records with rigorous accuracy and dedication.

The Last Great Climb (special edit)

Best Film – Climbing—Sponsored by the Alpine Club of Canada

(2013, UK, 26 min)

Filmmaker: Alastair Lee

Website: www.thelastgreatclimb.com

Are rock stars Leo Houlding, Sean “Stanley” Leary, and Jason Pickles up to their old tricks again? Maybe so, but they’ve brought along a few new friends and hopes of a bold new line on a remote spire in Queen Maud Land, Antarctica. They’re going big again – the majestic unclimbed Ulvetanna Peak is their goal this time. But they’re in the middle of nowhere, miserably cold, a bit delirious. Hopefully it’s nothing a little adrenaline can’t cure.

The Last Ice Merchant – El Ultimo Hielero
Best Film – Mountain Environment and Natural History - Sponsored by
Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative

(2012, USA, 14 min)

Filmmakers: Jeremy Yaches and Sandy Patch

Website: www.thelasticmerchant.com

When Baltazar Ushca dies, the long-lived tradition of harvesting glacial ice from the tallest mountain in Ecuador will die with him. Every action is tenderly portrayed as Baltazar steadfastly wraps his bounty in hay and loads it on his donkey for delivery to his loyal customers.

North of the Sun (Nordfor Sola)
Grand Prize Winner – sponsored by MEC
People’s Choice Award – sponsored by Treksta
Dolby Audio Award

(2012, Norway, 46 min)

Filmmakers: Inge Wegge and Anne Bergseng

Website: www.facebook.com/nordforsola

Tucked between the cold Atlantic Ocean and the rocky slopes of a remote, arctic island, two young Norwegian adventurers discover their own private playground. They build themselves a cabin out of flotsam while clearing the beach of debris, then spend the long winter skiing and surfing in the haunting low light.

NotBad (special edit)

(2013, Canada, 10 min)

Filmmakers: Darcy Wittenburg, Darren McCullough, Colin Jones and Ian Dunn

Website: www.anthillfilms.com

Seven brave riders set out from the four corners of the globe for thirty days of outrageous fun and bicycle tomfoolery in New Zealand.

Poor Man’s Heli

(2013, Canada, 6 min)

Filmmaker: Mike Douglas, Switchback Entertainment

Website: www.switchbackentertainment.com

A group of skiers launch themselves across a valley via paragliders to the remote slopes.

Push It

(2012, United Kingdom, 26 min)

Filmmaker: Jen Randall

Website: www.lightshedpictures.com

Want to see what it takes to get a job done with unique style and grace – and friendship intact? Let these two women show you as they attempt their first big wall climb ever – El Capitan in Yosemite. Though yearning for greater confidence, they are inspiring from start to finish. You go! We're behind you all the way!

The Questions We Ask

(2013, Canada, 3 min)

Filmmakers: Kalum Ko, Bruce Kirkby, Jeff Pew

Website: www.kalumko.com

Bruce Kirkby crosses the Pacific from Vancouver to Victoria on a stand-up paddleboard, and ponders what adventure means to him.

Ready to Fly**2012 Best Feature-Length Mountain Film (for original 76 minute version)**

(2012, USA, 56 min)

Filmmakers: William A. Kerig, Scott Zeller

Website: www.readytoflyfilm.com

Full of pluck and determination, a woman battles massive obstacles not only to achieve her dream, but also to help change the world for other women. In an emotional and triumphant journey with more ups and downs than a ski jumping competition itself, Lindsey Van and her colleagues take us along on their 15-year fight to achieve equality in the Olympic Winter Games.

Return to the Tepuis

(2013, USA, 9 min)

Filmmakers: Joe Riis and Jenny Nichols, Pongo Media

Website: www.pongomediaproductions.com

A wee pebble toad living in the crevices of the tepuis of South America is the missing link to understanding the age of the species as well as the age of the tepuis themselves.

Sea of Rock

(2012, Switzerland, 12 min)

Filmmaker: Sebastian Doerk, Infinite Trails Production

Website: www.infinitetrails.de

A bicycle found lodged on a climbing route in the Austrian Alps inspires two expert riders to follow in the treads of the early cyclists, down the über-gnarly slopes of the Sea of Rock.

Sensory Overload

(2013, USA, 8 min)

Filmmaker: Robert Raker, Raker Productions Inc

Website: www.robraker.com

Blind kayaker Erik Weißenmayer turns whitewater into a new form of braille.

Spice Girl (Reel Rock 8)

(2013, USA, 24 min)

Filmmakers: Josh Lowell, Alex Lowther, Peter Mortimer, Nick Rosen

Website: www.reelrocktour.com

The UK climbing scene is known for its strict traditional ethic, yielding super sketchy, dangerous routes, and a competitive machismo. It's the last place you'd expect to find a nice little blond girl putting all the lads to shame, but Hazel Findlay is doing just that. The first woman to climb the British grade of E9, Hazel is a connoisseur of loose rock, dodgy gear, and big runouts.

Split of a Second

(2012, Sweden, 8 min)

Filmmakers: Björn Fävremark and John Boisen

Website: www.facebook.com/espen.fadnes

99.9% of time is spent in preparation for living a few moments of joy. The other .1% is to only be here now, and step off that cliff!

Stand (special edit)

(2013, Canada, 23 min)

Filmmakers: Anthony Bonello and Nicolas Teichrob

Website: www.standfilm.com

With a pipeline proposal always comes talk of what will be gained – but shouldn't we be asking, 'What do we stand to lose?' A hauntingly beautiful examination of the people and culture of the Great Bear Rainforest– and the lives of those committed to defending its fragile ecosystems and fjords, one paddle stroke at a time.

Streams of Consequence

(2013, USA, 17 min)

Filmmaker: James Q Martin

Website: www.rioslibres.com

One of the last remaining wilderness areas in the world is threatened as plans for mega-dams on the rivers of Chilean Patagonia are solidified. What is the outcome for these people and their struggle to keep their lands dam-free?

Sufferfest

(2013, USA, 18 mins)

Filmmaker: Cedar Wright

Website: www.cedarwright.com

Alex Honnold and Cedar Wright embark on a wholly human-powered adventure to link all of California's 14,000 foot peaks. Utterly new to biking, the quirky yet endearing duo push themselves to their absolute limits in pursuit of success.

Valhalla (special edit)

(2013, USA, 3 min)

Filmmakers: Ben Sturgulewski, Nick Waggoner, Michael Brown, Zac Ramras
(Sweetgrass Productions)

Website: www.sweetgrass-productions.com

From naked chairlift riding to cliff airs wearing nothing more than an avalanche beacon and a smile, Valhalla's naked snow segment sparks laughter from skiers and non-skiers alike.