

26th Annual

# Banff Mountain Film Festival

## 2001 - 2002 WORLD TOUR FILM MENU

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The following list contains the films available on the 2001/2002 Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour. This list will also be posted in our on-line Media Kit at [www.banffcentre.ca/cmc/tourhost](http://www.banffcentre.ca/cmc/tourhost). Host organizations can select up to 2.5 hours of film that reflects the interests of their audience. We highly recommend you seek advice from your on-site coordinator, or the Banff office before finalizing your program



**DESERT FRICTION**

### DESERT FRICTION

(Africa/2001/26 minutes)

**FOCUS:**  
Climbing

**TYPE:**  
Drama/Action/  
Humor

**RATING:**  
Mature  
(some foul language)

**ADRENALINE FACTOR:**  
Medium-High

**Director:** Nic Good

**Producer:** Brian Valentine – Fresh Air Crew

South Africa's current sport-climbing champion is ably assisted by a fellow leading climber in an attempt to reach the summit of Spitzkop via the route called INXS – a 500-metre-high granite slab set in the desolate landscape of the Namibian desert. The climbers rely on miniscule crystals as hand- and footholds, and on the friction of their climbing shoes and the skin of their hands. The bolts on this climb are few and far apart. A slip would be serious.

Aired on TV? *Yes, Europe only*

**2001 Best Film on Climbing**

### BERSERK IN THE ANTARCTIC

(Norway/2000/52 minutes)

**FOCUS:**  
Sailing

**TYPE:**  
Drama/Action/  
Humor

**RATING:**  
Mature (foul language)

**ADRENALINE FACTOR:**  
High

**Producer/Director:** Kaare Skard – TV2 Norway

This is the incredible story of three young men who risk their lives on board a small sailboat, the Berserk. Their destination is Antarctica. The captain is 19-year-old Jarle Andhøj from Norway, and the crew consists of two chance adventurers from the USA and Argentina. Both have never sailed before. Many people said this voyage was doomed to go wrong – and they were right. Filled with idyllic moments, comedy, and lots of white-knuckle adventure.

Aired on TV? *Yes, Europe only*

**2001 People's Choice Award**

### MUSTANG

(Slovakia/2001/28 minutes)

**FOCUS:**  
Cultural

**TYPE:**  
Drama/Documentary

**RATING:**  
General

**ADRENALINE FACTOR:**  
Low

**Director/Producer:** Pavol Barabas – K2 Studio

Two friends travel along an ancient trade route in Nepal over the main ridge of the Himalayas to reach Lo Manthang, the capital of Mustang. There they secretly shoot a film. Time seems to have stopped in this medieval fortress. Electricity, roads and cars are unknown to these people, and yet in some ways they are ahead of us in their incredible knowledge of nature and their way of life.

Aired on TV? *No*

**2001 Best Film on Mountain Culture**



CARRYING THE BURDEN

### CARRYING THE BURDEN

(UK/2000/30 minutes)

**FOCUS:**  
Cultural

**TYPE:**  
Drama/Documentary

**RATING:**  
General  
(graphic scenes of  
frost bite)

**ADRENALINE FACTOR:**  
Medium-High

**Director/Producer:** Sangita Manandhar –  
BBC Birmingham

Every year, thousands of Westerners flock to Nepal for the ultimate trekking adventure. It is an industry that generates a lot of income, but not everyone benefits. For the porters who carry the trekkers' loads, the task can often be dangerous and even deadly.

Aired on TV? *Yes, Europe only*

Runner-Up – 2001 People's Choice Award

### 1140

(USA/2001/9 minutes)

**FOCUS:**  
Skiing/  
Snowboarding

**TYPE:**  
Action

**RATING:**  
General

**ADRENALINE FACTOR:**  
Medium-High

**Director/Producer:** Randy Waldschmidt –  
Resident Films

1140 inches of snow at Mt. Baker broke all the records for snowfall in one year. Join the residents as they snowboard and ski the snowiest place on earth.

Aired on TV? *No*

### BASE HEADS

(USA/2001/5 minutes)

**FOCUS:**  
BASE Jumping

**TYPE:**  
Action

**RATING:**  
General

**ADRENALINE FACTOR:**  
High

**Directors:** Steve Winter, Murray Wais, Scott Gaffney  
**Producer:** Matchstick Productions

Shane McConkey and friends go for massive air – a 5000 ft BASE jump – on Baffin Island. The best BASE jumping segment ever filmed in a remote part of the Arctic Circle.

Aired on TV? *No*

### AFRICAN B.A.S.E.

(South Africa/2001/26 minutes)

**FOCUS:**  
BASE Jumping

**TYPE:**  
Drama/Action

**RATING:**  
General

**ADRENALINE FACTOR:**  
High

**Director:** Nic Good

**Producer:** Brian Valentine – Fresh Air Crew

Some people live on the edge – others step over it. This film follows a small group of international BASE jumpers as they travel down the East coast of South Africa, from Durban to Cape Town. Their goal is to jump off all four BASE objects: Building, Antenna, Span, and Earth. Their last jump (Earth) has never been done before. Using a specially designed wing suit, the jumpers attempt to clear the ledge on the 2600-foot Milner Amphitheatre. If successful, they will freefall for up to 30 seconds.

Aired on TV? *Yes, Europe and South America*

### ALPAMAYO

(USA/2000/22 minutes)

**FOCUS:**  
Climbing/  
Mountaineering

**TYPE:**  
Drama/Action

**RATING:**  
General

**ADRENALINE FACTOR:**  
Medium

**Director/Producer:** Michael Ellis

Alpamayo (19,506 feet) remains one of mountaineering's most coveted summits. This expedition explores the rich Peruvian culture, and the magnificent alpine terrain along the classic route of the southwest face of Alpamayo, the Ferrari Direct. You will join six members of a climbing team on their three week ascent of this dramatic blade of ice.

Aired on TV? *No*

### KJERAG

(USA/1998/3 minutes)

**FOCUS:**  
Snowboarding/  
BASE Jumping

**TYPE:**  
Action

**RATING:**  
General

**ADRENALINE FACTOR:**  
High

**Director:** Tom Day

**Producers:** Mike Hatchett, Dave Barlia –  
Standard Films

This musical visual features Dave Barlia snowboarding off Kjerag, a 3000-foot cliff in the Lysefjord, in Norway.

Aired on TV? *No*

### MIND THE ADDICTION

(USA/2001/15 minutes)

**FOCUS:**  
Skiing/  
Snowboarding

**TYPE:**  
Action

**RATING:**  
General

**ADRENALINE FACTOR:**  
High

**Directors:** Dirk Collins, Todd Jones, Steve Jones

**Producers:** Dirk Collins, Todd Jones, Steve Jones,  
Corey Gavitt – Teton Gravity Research

The year 2001 – some of the world's greatest athletes travel the globe, pushing the limits of skiing and snowboarding. Enter their minds – live their lives – feel their addiction.

Aired on TV? *No, but tour independently*

## GELADA BABOONS – THE BATTLES OF BRAVEHEART

(UK/2001/30 minutes)

**FOCUS:**  
Wildlife/  
Environment

**TYPE:**  
Documentary

**RATING:**  
General

**ADRENALINE FACTOR:**  
Low

**Producer:** Mark Linfield –  
Green Umbrella Ltd.

The gelada baboon is a high-altitude specialist confined to Ethiopia's harsh but beautiful Simien Mountains. The camera team follows a male gelada as he defends his harem from a precocious and aggressive band of bachelor baboons – a rare view into gelada social life.

Aired on TV? *Yes, Europe only*

## WILL GADD – "THIS IS YOUR LIFE"

(USA/2001/4 minutes)

**FOCUS:**  
Climbing  
Rock & Ice/  
Paragliding/Kayaking

**TYPE:**  
Athlete Profile

**RATING:**  
General

**ADRENALINE FACTOR:**  
High

**Directors:** Melissa Forman, Pat Morrow  
**Producer:** Melissa Forman – Sun Bear Productions

A quick, humorous glance at world-class, multi-talented athlete and adventurer Will Gadd.

Aired on TV? *Yes, in different format OLN and RSN*

2001 Best Short Film

## THE LAST ASCENT

(USA/2000/14 minutes)

**FOCUS:**  
Climbing/  
Mountaineering

**TYPE:**  
Documentary

**RATING:**  
General

**ADRENALINE FACTOR:**  
Low

**Producer:** Jonathan Halperin  
**Production Company:** National Geographic Television

A portrait of world-class climber Alex Lowe, who was tragically killed in an avalanche on Shishipangma in October of 1999.

Aired on TV? *Yes, October 24, 1999*

## MOUNTAIN MEN: THE GHOSTS OF K2

(UK/2001/50 minutes)

**FOCUS:**  
Mountaineering/  
Climbing

**TYPE:**  
Documentary/Drama

**RATING:**  
General

**ADRENALINE FACTOR:**  
Medium

**Director/Producer:** Mick Conefrey – BBC TV

The story of the pioneer climbers of K2, Fritz Wiessener and Charles Houston, and their battle with the second highest mountain in the world. Mountain Men draws on rare archive film footage, in-depth interviews, and specially shot material to tell the story of the men who risked their lives to conquer "the Savage Mountain".

Aired on TV? *Yes, Europe only*

2001 Special Jury Mention

## LO DOMANDERÒ ALLA MONTAGNA (I WILL ASK IT TO THE MOUNTAIN)

(Italy/1999/8 minutes)

**FOCUS:**  
Climbing/  
Mountaineering

**TYPE:**  
Climbing/Culture

**RATING:**  
General

**ADRENALINE FACTOR:**  
Low

**Director:** Francesco Paladino  
**Producer:** Motel Productions

During his long life as a climber, mountain guide Bruno Detassis explored some of the most beautiful and fascinating mountains in Italy. The stirring images in this short, poetic film reflect a man who embodies not only the longing of a climber to reach the summit, but also a man who discovered the meaning for his life in the mountains.

Aired on TV? *Yes, Europe only*

## UNIZABA

(Canada/2001/10 minutes)

**FOCUS:**  
Unicycling

**TYPE:**  
Action

**RATING:**  
General

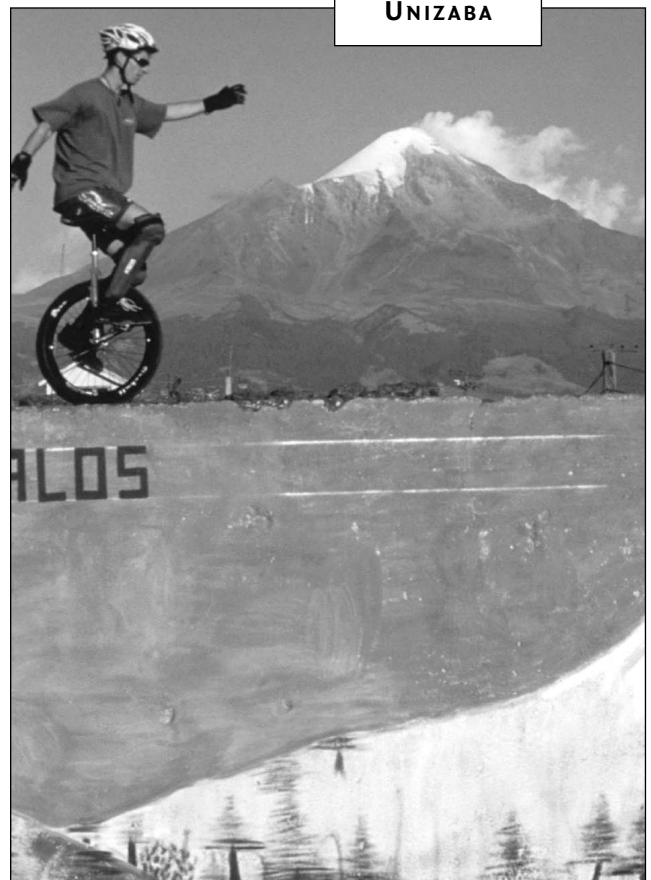
**ADRENALINE FACTOR:**  
Medium-High

**Director:** Sean White  
**Producers:** Sean White/Derek Westerlund –  
Freeride Entertainm

Unizaba follows mountain unicycle guru, Kris Holm, on an adventure in Mexico that culminates in a unicycle descent down North America's third highest mountain, El Pico de Orizaba.

Aired on TV? *No*

## UNIZABA



## JUMP!

(USA/2001/48 minutes)

**Directors/Producers:** Allen Hill & John Catto –  
Alpenglow Film & Video

In the fairytale-like countryside known as the Czech Paradise, there are hundreds of slender limestone pillars rising over a hundred feet – and often only a tantalizing few feet apart. While for centuries this has been a haven for climbers, so too has it supported another remarkable sport – tower jumping.

Aired on TV? *No*

**2001 Best Film on Sport**

## ORANGE UNPLUGGED

(South Africa/2001/26 minutes)

**Director:** Nic Good  
**Producer:** Brian Valentine – Fresh Air Crew

The Orange River is born high in the Drakensberg Mountains, on the eastern escarpment of southern Africa. From its humble beginnings, it becomes a major river and flows some 2000 kilometres to finally come to rest in the Atlantic Ocean, on the opposite side of the Dry Continent. Its journey through the harsh African plains takes it just south of the Kalahari Desert, but its celebration is at Augrabies Falls, where it tumbles 60 metres into the shadows of a steep-sided gorge. Four world-class whitewater kayakers join forces to test their skills in the massive rapids of the Augrabies Gorge.

Aired on TV? *No*

## WILD ASIA: AT THE EDGE

(Japan & New Zealand/2001/50 minutes)

**Producers:** Shinichi Murata, Michael Stedman  
**Production Companies:** NHK; Natural History New Zealand Ltd.; Discovery Channel; NDR Naturfilm Studio Hamburg Fernseh Allianz

Set in Ladakh in northern India, at the vertical limit of mammalian life on Earth, this film offers a rich portrait of life and death and an intimate encounter with the wild snow leopard. Here live some of the world's hardest creatures including the bharal, the Tibetan wolf and the snow leopard.

Aired on TV? *Yes, Japan only*

**2001 Best Film on Mountain Environment**



**JUMP!**

## TIMELESS

(Switzerland/2000/13 minutes)

**Focus:**  
Skiing

**Type:**  
Action

**Rating:**  
General

**Adrenaline Factor:**  
Medium-High

**Director/Producer:** Dominique Perret –  
Vertical Zoo

Filmed in the Lyngen Mountains of Norway and the Swiss Alps, Timeless features Dominique Perret, voted Best Freeride Skier of the Century at the 2000 Board Awards in Paris. Dominique is in search of the roots of the sport that is his passion, and his life.

Aired on TV? *No*

## SALT – TEARS OF THE EARTH

(Austria/2001/55 minutes)

**Focus:**  
Cultural/  
Environmental

**Type:**  
Documentary

**Rating:**  
General

**Adrenaline Factor:**  
Low

**Director:** Wolfgang Thaler  
**Producers:** Peter Mayer, Werner Fitzthum –  
Adi Mayer Film

This documentary embraces three main aspects of the phenomenon of salt. Salt and nature – a union for life: the Bolivian Uyuni salt flat high in the mountains, and the sea salt harvest in Portugal. Salt and humanity – an age-old trial of strength: Turkmenistan. Salt and civilization – the power of the white crystal deep inside the mountains: Wieliczka in Poland and Hallstatt in Austria are links between the past and the present.

Aired on TV? *Yes, Europe only*

**Focus:**  
Climbing/  
Tower Jumping

**Type:**  
Documentary/Action

**Rating:**  
General

**Adrenaline Factor:**  
Medium-High

**Focus:**  
Kayaking

**Type:**  
Drama/Action/  
Humor

**Rating:**  
Mature  
(some foul language)

**Adrenaline Factor:**  
Medium-High

**Focus:**  
Wildlife/  
Environment

**Type:**  
Documentary

**Rating:**  
General

**Adrenaline Factor:**  
Low