

Films for Friday, February 21st

The Burn

5 min.

Every summer, forest fires burn wildly across the mountains. As destructive as they are, they have a purpose and beauty that often goes unappreciated: when winter arrives in these charred forests, so do skiers.

Return to the Tepuis

9 min.

“Science is important,” says Bruce Means, whose investigative work into a species of tiny toads in remotest Guyana, South America. Science is also, by the look of it, exotic, exciting and not without a hint of danger.

Greg Treinish

10 min.

What does it really take to combine passion for adventure and a responsibility to protect the environment? Meet Gregg Treinish, a National Geographic Adventurer who launched the nonprofit Adventurers and Scientists for Conservation based on the idea that those who recreate in natural areas have a responsibility to protect them.

Badru’s Story

6 min.

Badru Mugerwa is part of an international effort to monitor changes in vegetation and animal composition from climate change. His piece of the puzzle is in Bwindi Impenetrable National Park in Uganda, where he sets dozens of camera traps designed to record animals that range from agile felines to stolid primates and from tiny deer to giant elephants.

The Black Line

3 min.

The guys from Ebis Films ventured into the mountains of Japan for a shoot and couldn’t help but notice the surreal, silvery quality of the snow, which had been glossed over with a fine-film crust. Snowflakes waft like fine metal shavings, snow dust floats over the crust like a specter and ski tracks look like graphite lines on a chrome-finished slope.

Paradise Found

12 min

Tim Laman and Edwin Scholes have spent nearly a decade documenting the 39 species of birds of paradise that live in Papua New Guinea. The birds — which are both gorgeous and silly — prove to be elusive prey for the cameras, but the adventure is as much about the journey as it is the destination.

Split of a Second

9 min

Prepare for a mix of goose bumps and nausea as finely calculated risk meets pure insanity. Get inside the thoughts and motives of wingsuit world champion Espen Faldnes.

Gloop

5 min

“Once upon a time, a genius of science, a chemist called Leo, stumbled on a substance, a curious gloopy mess that molded into any shape the genius cared to test.” While his marvelous gloop seemed to have unlimited uses, it also had a darker side that no one could foresee.

Home Turf

15 min

In part because of long, systemic poverty, Ireland has managed to keep alive traditions that might have otherwise gone the way of progress. The laborious process to extract fuel from the ancient bog for winter fires is a tradition these men cherish, and one that is now starting to die.

Keeper of the Mountains

25 min

It’s odd to consider that the one person who has exhaustively tracked, detailed and archived Himalayan expeditions of the past half century is someone who has never climbed a mountain herself. Elizabeth Hawley has interviewed thousands of expedition leaders, but she has never been interested in joining them on any of the routes that she’s come to know intimately in her mind’s eye.

Lacon de Catalonia

5 min

If your backyard mountain bike jumps require a five-story drop-in ramp for speed, chances are your name is Andreu Lacondeguy. Head to Lacondeguy’s training compound in the suburbs of Barcelona, Spain, for a day in the life of one of the best riders in the world.

***Films and screening order are subject to change without notice.**