OCC Banff Mountain Film Festival March 15 & 16, 2016

Film List

Tuesday, March 15

The Important Places
Best Short Mountain Film – sponsored by The North Face
2015, USA, 9 min

Using a mix of old 16mm footage and new visuals, a son rediscovers the necessity of returning to and protecting “the important places” in our lives.

unReal (special edit)
2015, USA, 12min

Imagine a world where you ride the perfect trail perfectly, and sometime snow isn’t the only stuff that falls from the sky. When you spend all of your time at work dreaming about mountain biking, which life is real?

Curiosity
2014, USA, 13 min

How does curiosity inspire ultra-marathoners Rory Bosio, Timothy Olson and Hal Koerner as they prepare for the Ultra-Trail du Mont Blanc? Their artistry gives them lots in common with local artist Andy Parkin.

Reel Rock 10: A Line Across the Sky
Best Film – Climbing
2015, USA, 40 min

Long considered impossible, coveted by many and attempted by a few, the Fitz Traverse has fueled the imaginations of climbers in Patagonia for decades. Tracing the iconic skyline of Cerro Fitz Roy and its six satellite peaks, it spans four miles and 13,000 feet across snow and ice-covered rock, with epic route finding and endless rappelling. Seizing their chance during a rare extended weather window, Tommy Caldwell and Alex Honnold went big. The pair completed the first ascent in a five-day push during February 2014.
Pretty Faces (special edit)
2014, USA, 11 min
Celebrate women who thrive in the snow! Follow her as she chases snow, from the time she needs to be lifted onto the chairlift to her first Alaskan dream line and beyond.

Project Mina (special edit)
2014, UK, 17 min
A rare, intimate, behind-the-scenes look at the life of pro climber Mina Leslie-Wujastyk during a season on the world cup bouldering circuit.

Chasing Niagara (special edit)
Best Film – Mountain Sports
2015, USA, 31 min
When pro kayaker Rafa Ortiz decides to paddle over Niagara Falls, he sets in motion a series of events leading his team on a remarkable two-year journey from Mexican rainforest rivers to the waterfalls of the U.S. Northwest before coming to a heart-stopping climax at the iconic falls.

Nature Rx
2015, USA, 1 min
Is life a little too mundane or overwhelming? Feeling tired, irritable or stressed out? Maybe Nature Rx is just the ticket.
**Wednesday, March 16**

**55 Hours in Mexico**
2015, USA, 9 min

Fly to Veracruz on a Friday, rent a car, climb the third-highest peak in North America, ski down and return to your desk Monday. How hard could it be?

**Operation Moffat - Special Jury Mention**
2015, UK, 20 min

Operation Moffat takes inspiration and wit from the colorful climbing life of Britain’s first female mountain guide Gwen Moffat. Writer Claire Carter and filmmaker Jen Randall scramble, swim and barefoot climb through Gwen’s landscapes, grappling with her preference for mountains over people, adventure over security and wilderness over tick lists.

**Unbranded (special edit)**
People’s Choice Award
2015, USA, 46 min

Four men and 16 wild mustangs set off on a 5000 kilometer journey across the American West from Mexico to Canada. In the spirit of true adventure, whiskey is drunk, tempers fly, tragedy strikes, and the bonds of friendship hold fast. But can the journey help save the plight of the wild horses roaming on public lands? Only time will tell.

**Paradise Waits (special edit)**
2015, USA, 7 min

How do you celebrate winter when snow finally falls? Freeskier Tim Durtschi takes tram laps at Jackson Hole and big mountain skier Angel Collinson rips up some Alaskan lines.

**Darklight (special edit)**
2015, USA, 5 min

Most adventurers who set out to cross the Indian Ocean have some rowing experience. For two blokes from the UK, that seemed like a minor detail, not a death wish.
Bluehue
2015, UK, 5 min
Natasha Brooks swims naked year-round in the cold mountain lakes of Snowdonia, Wales. Through this she finds solitude, grounding and a deep connection to the natural environment. Winner of the British Mountaineering Council’s 2014 Women in Adventure Film Competition.

Eclipse
Best Film – Snow Sports
2015, Canada, 31 min
The odds are low, the risks are high – photographer Reuben Krabbe is determined to capture a photo of a skier in front of the 2015 solar eclipse in Svalbard. But the weather’s bad, the guide is sketchy, the pressure is massive and the skiers just want to ski.

Women’s Speed Ascent
2015, USA, 4 min
Mayan Smith-Gobat and Libby Sauter knew that the women's speed record for the ascent of The Nose on El Cap was theirs for the taking. Crushing the old record after just a few days of attempts, Mayan and Libby put their names in the record book of the infamous route in the Yosemite National Park.

Denali
2015, USA, 8 min
There's no easy way to say goodbye to a friend, especially when they've supported you through your darkest times. A collaboration between Ben Knight, Skip Armstrong and Ben Moon.