



From 12th to 16th November 2019 we screen the latest exciting filmproductions in the genres mountains, sports and nature in the old town of Graz.

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A LOOK AT OUR WORLD

It's back: the doors of the international **Mountainfilm Graz** film festival will again be open this year from Tuesday the 12th until Saturday the 16th November. A fitting stage for the cream of mountain sport films and nature documentaries in the halls of Congress Graz and the Schubert cinema in the heart of the Styrian provincial capital.

Filmmakers from 36 countries submitted more than **260 entries** for the international **"Grand Prix Graz 2019"** competition. The high quality of the entered films made choosing the best of them a difficult, but, nonetheless, rewarding task!

MOUNTAIN SPORT HUMAN NATURE

There have been years in which a specific theme has crystallized particularly clearly from amongst the categories of the traditionally mountain-focused festival. The personal development of the directors and protagonists often also shows a paradigm shift in public perception. **2019 is such a year!**

The current fixation with the future of our planet — its nature and environment — is unmistakeable. A theme that has always been especially important for **Mountainfilm Graz**.

By making documentaries, filmmakers enable us to recognize the on-going threat to our environment and, at the same time, motivate us to help to preserve our only planet. This year's festival shall, once again, serve as both platform and meeting point for protagonists of this wide range of themes.

The quest for the special and the unique often (though not always) takes filmmakers to out-of-the-way locations where they may have to endure stress, strain and fear. All for a result that often doesn't provide even a hint of these trials and tribulations: a film on the cinema screen which enchants and moves the audience and makes its members feel like they are themselves there.

Emotions are triggered when alpinists and climbers open-up new routes, reach turning points in their careers, or when friendship triumphs over sporting ambition.

We will, once again, have an opportunity to welcome many great personalities to the festival stage and to gain insights into their fascinating lives.

BEYOND THE EDGE: JOURNEY TO THE SUMMIT OF EVEREST

An exciting supporting programme shall complement the film screenings.

Sir Edmund Hillary — who in June of this year would have celebrated his 100th birthday — is well known to the general public. The Australian **Michael Dillon** will present the European premiere of an empathetic portrait of the multi-faceted first climber of **Mount Everest**.

The grandson of Hillary's former partner **Tenzing Norgay**, will, moreover, bring to Graz the culture and way of life of people living in the Himalayas in his **multivision lecture** within the festival setting.

We are pleased to have secured **Tashi Tenzing** to talk about life and present-day developments on the world's highest mountain. The rich cultural heritage of the Sherpas and his grandfather's achievements laid the groundwork for many successful expeditions to the "roof of the world". Tashi Tenzing's own summit ascents have added his name three times to the list of successful Everest climbers.

FESTIVAL CATEGORIES

Alpinism & Expeditions – 24 films

Sports in Mountains & Nature – 38 films

Nature and Environment – 38 films

People & Cultures – 25 films

The five-day festival will culminate in the "Long Night of Mountain Films" ("Lange Nacht des Bergfilms") — a screening of all of the winning films in the Stefaniensaal and Steiermarksaal in Congress Graz following the awards ceremony.

For trailers, photos and brief descriptions of all films, please check-out the festival website:

www.mountainfilm.com

