

**AAJU PETER - INUIT CULTURALIST AND MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF CANADA**

Aaju Peter is an ardent defender of the rights of Canada's northern Indigenous people. An Inuk clothing designer, lawyer and activist, she is committed to preserving Inuit culture and language. Travelling internationally, she has raised global awareness of the challenges confronting Canada's most northern inhabitants. She also speaks about issues related to sustainability and resources, and their impact on the traditional way of life. Aaju Peter was the only Nunavut resident to be invested into the Order of Canada in 2011, which recognized her for "outstanding achievement, dedication to the community, and service to the nation."

**JOHN HOUSTON - FILMMAKER**

John Houston directed two experimental documentaries about Inuit cultural beliefs, "Diet of Souls" and "Nulijuk: Mother of the Sea Beasts," which won the award for Outstanding Achievement in a Documentary at the 2002 Directors Guild of Canada Awards. Houston also directed "Songs in Stone: An Arctic Journey Home," about the Inuit artists of Cape Dorset and his parents, Alma and James Houston, who are widely recognized for their work in developing the art market for Inuit sculpture and prints. He worked as first assistant director on Carroll Ballard's "Never Cry Wolf" and several other productions before making his own films. Houston is the owner of the Houston North Gallery in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia.

**STEFAN KINDBERG - EXPEDITION LEADER**

Over the past 30 years, Stefan Kindberg has traveled around the world to remote locations and led numerous small ship-based voyages to Antarctica and the High Arctic including Greenland, Iceland, Canada, Svalbard, Northern Russia and Siberia. Born and raised at the Arctic Circle in Sweden, Stefan is an established expedition leader and photographer. His work has also taken him to the Indian Ocean, the Amazon and Orinoco Rivers, the east and west coasts of South America, the Far East including China, Japan, the Kuril Islands, Kamchatka, and the coasts of Africa and Madagascar.

**RAYMOND ARNAUDO - POLICY PLANNING, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

Mr. Arnaudo is a career civil servant, with over 30 years experience in environmental and science policy affairs. Most recently, he served as the Head of the U.S. Antarctic Treaty Secretariat, and prior to this was the Senior Advisor for nuclear energy and multilateral nuclear nonproliferation with the Department of Energy at the American Embassy in Moscow from 2006-08. Before that, he served as the Director of the Office of Oceans Affairs, and has a long history of work in ocean and polar affairs. He has also served as the Science and Environment Counselor at the American Embassy in London and the U.S. Permanent Representation to the U.N. International Maritime Organization.

**MARK TERRY - FILMMAKER**

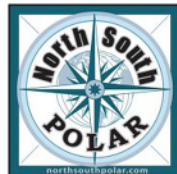
A documentary filmmaker for 25 years, Mark Terry is the recipient of the Stefansson Medal for his "outstanding contribution to field science research in documenting our natural world. His film "The Antarctica Challenge: A Global Warning" was the only film invited by the United Nations to screen to delegates attending the Framework Convention on Climate Change in Copenhagen in 2009, establishing a partnership the United Nations Environment Programme that continues today with his new film project - "Youth Climate Report." Mark's polar documentaries have won more than 30 international awards and have contributed to creating new international policy with the United Nations.

**KEN MCGOOGAN - AUTHOR**

Award-winning author of ten books, Ken McGoogan is best known for *Fatal Passage: The Untold Story of John Rae, the Arctic Explorer Who Discovered the Fate of Franklin*, which has won many prizes, among them the American Christopher Award for "a work of artistic excellence that affirms the highest values of the human spirit." The award-winning docudrama "Passage" is based on *Fatal Passage*. His related book, *Lady Franklin's Revenge: A True Story of Obsession, Obsession and the Remaking of Arctic History* won the University of British Columbia Medal for Biography and the Pierre Berton Award for History. His two other works about northern exploration are: *Ancient Mariner: The Arctic Adventures of Samuel Hearne, the Sailor Who Inspired Coleridge's Masterpiece* and *Race to the Polar Sea: The Heroic Adventures of Elisha Kent Kane*.

BILL GASPERINI - FOREIGN NEWS CORRESPONDENT

Bill Gasperini worked as a foreign news correspondent in many parts of the world for over 20 years, mostly in Russia where he also filmed and produced documentaries and film shorts that took him to many parts of the Arctic as well as Antarctica. He will be presenting two films that treat subjects in both polar regions, including a film about reindeer herders who migrate across the Russian Arctic, and a second that focuses on Antarctica and islands such as South Georgia and St. Helena.

**LOU SAPIENZA - NORTH-SOUTH POLAR INC.**

Lou Sapienza is an accomplished explorer, MIA investigator, polar archeologist and photographer. As founder and CEO of North South Polar, Inc., Lou works with the US Department of Defense Service Branches and Joint Commands instigating investigations and the recovery of MIAs that the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command would not otherwise attempt. He is a veteran of the Greenland Expedition Society's final three "Lost Squadron" expeditions that recovered the WWII P-38 Lightning fighter plane known as "Glacier Girl" - from 268 feet below the ice sheet surface. His photographs and interviews were the subject of the History Channel's "The Hunt for the Lost Squadron."

SHEENA FRASER MCGOOGAN - PAINTER / ARTIST

A colorist who uses acrylic paints to tell stories that capture the essence of the landscape. Sheena McGoogan's paintings are based on her voyages through the North West Passage, Greenland and Scotland with Adventure Canada.

The Explorers Club and the Polar Film Festival team would like to thank the following Sponsors and Event Partners for their generous contributions and support:

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The Explorers Club Polar Film Festival Committee: Moki Kokoris, Stefan Kindberg, Milbry Polk, Will Roseman

NOVEMBER 30 • DECEMBER 2, 2012

THE EXPLORERS CLUB
POLAR FILM FESTIVAL

WHERE THE ARCTIC AND ANTARCTICA MEET • CELEBRATING ANTARCTICA DAY



The Explorers Club • 46 East 70th Street, New York NY

MAIN PROGRAM • Clark Room

• Friday, November 30, 2012

5:30p – 6:30p Reception

6:30p Inuit Welcome – Opening Ceremony by Aaju Peter

6:45p John Houston introduction of "Diet of Souls"

• Saturday, December 1, 2012 – Celebrating Antarctica Day

9:00a – 10:00a Registration and Continental breakfast

10:00a Alan Nichols – Welcome

10:05a Stefan Kindberg – Introduction to Antarctica

10:20a Film short – "Antarctica - The Reason Why" by Jim Lopes

10:30a Feature film – "Terra Antarctica" by Jon Bowermaster

11:30a Raymond Arnaudo – presentation on the Antarctic Treaty

11:50a Film short – "Antarctica" by Josh Newman

12:00 – 1:00p Lunch break in library

1:00p Feature film – "Great White Silence"

2:50p Film short – "Bach of the Antarctic" by Ben Hillman

3:00p – 3:15p short break

3:15p Feature film – "Ice People" by Anne Aghion

4:30p Feature film – "The Polar Explorer" introduced by filmmaker Mark Terry

5:30p – 6:30p Dinner break / Reception in library

6:30p Ken McGoogan – presentation: "Return to Rae Strait" and John Walker's film: "Passage"

• Sunday, December 2, 2012 – Arctic Films

9:30a – 10:30a Registration and Continental breakfast

10:30a Stefan Kindberg - Introduction to the Arctic

10:45a Film Short – "North" by Temujin Doran

11:00a Feature film – "People of a Feather" by Joel Heath

12:30p – 1:30p Lunch break in library

1:30p Film short – "Tuurngait" by Paul-Emile Boucher

1:40p Feature film – "Chasing Ice" by Jeff Orlowski

3:00p Film – "Tunniit: Retracing the Lines of Inuit Tattoos"

3:45p Alan Nichols – Thank you address

4:00p Aaju Peter – Inuit closing ceremony



FILM PROGRAM NOTES:



"Antarctica - The Reason Why" – by Jim Lopes
For all the people who have asked "why" go to Antarctica.
Genre/type: Travel documentary - 4 mins



"Terra Antarctica – Rediscovering the Seventh Continent" – by Jon Bowermaster

Genre/type: Documentary - 48 mins
As described by the team: "For six weeks we explored the Antarctic Peninsula by sea kayak, sailboat, foot and small plane, observing the fast changing evolution of this most remote place." Impacted by climate change - temperatures have warmed along the Peninsula faster than anywhere on the planet during the past 50 years. This part of Antarctica is also experiencing a boom in tourism, and nations are fighting over who owns what as its ice slowly disappears. This National Geographic-sponsored exploration film is a one-of-a-kind look at Antarctica from a unique perspective - sea level.

"The Great White Silence" – by Herbert Ponting and the British Film Institute

Genre/type: Documentary/Historical Restoration - 108 mins
"The Great White Silence" is a 1924 English documentary that contains brief cinematograph sequences taken during the Terra Nova Expedition of 1910—1913. Originally a silent film, the documentary was restored and re-released in 2011 by the British Film Institute with a musical soundtrack by Simon Fisher Turner. Filmmaker Herbert Ponting was the first known photographer to bring a cinematograph to the Antarctic continent and to take brief video sequences of the continent's orcas, penguins and other fauna, as well as the human explorers who were trying to "conquer" it.

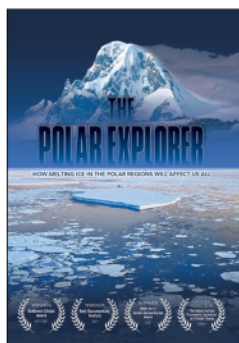


"Bach of the Antarctic" – by Ben Hillman
Genre/type: Comedy/Documentary Parody - 8 mins
Toccata, Cantata, Antarctica. Who Knew?

A startling discovery reveals that the person who discovered Antarctica was none other than... Johann Sebastian Bach.

"Ice People" - A once-in-a-lifetime journey with Antarctica's 21st century explorers – by Anne Aghion

Genre/type: Adventure and Exploration - 77 mins
Unique in the genre of exploration and adventure films, "Ice People" takes you on one of the Earth's most seductive journeys - to Antarctica. Emmy-winning documentary filmmaker Anne Aghion spent four months "on the ice" with modern-day polar explorers, to find out what drives dedicated researchers to leave the world behind in pursuit of science, and to capture the true experience of living and working in this extreme environment. And, as it turns out, the film also witnesses one of the most significant discoveries about climate change in recent Antarctic science.



"The Polar Explorer" - by Mark Terry

Genre/type: Exploration/Documentary - 60 mins
On an one-month expedition crossing the Northwest Passage, Mark Terry becomes the first filmmaker to make the crossing through the Prince of Wales Strait. Traveling with an international team of polar scientists, Mark documents new discoveries made in areas of the Arctic that had not yet been explored. Vanishing sea ice has made these previously inaccessible areas navigable for the first time. The film also explores similarly new areas of Antarctica, and the findings at both poles are presented to the United Nations to assist in the creation of a new climate-related policy.

"Passage" – by John Walker

Genre/type: Documentary/Historical - 108 mins
Following the tale of hubris and national ambition, John Walker looks at the tragic fate of the 1845 Franklin expedition and the controversy surrounding the harrowing tale of desperation and futility as told by Inuit oral histories. The story is told with the assistance of Nunavut MLA and historian Tagak Curley, and draws on the historical biography of John Rae by Ken McGoogan, titled "Fatal Passage."



"North" – by Temujin Doran

Genre/type: Historical/Documentary - 14 mins
Svalbard is an archipelago of islands high within the Arctic Circle. In 1920, a treaty known as the Svalbard Act was signed by several nations recognizing Norwegian sovereignty over the islands, and declaring the whole region a demilitarized zone. "North" is a short film about how, over the course of recent history, Svalbard became increasingly linked to developments in climate science.

"People of a Feather" – by Joel Heath

Genre/type: Full Feature Documentary - 90 mins
Featuring footage from seven winters in the Arctic, "People of a Feather" takes you through time into the world of Inuit on the Belcher Islands in Hudson Bay. Connecting past, present, and future, the film reveals their unique cultural relationship with the eider duck. Eider down, the warmest feather in the world, allows both Inuit and bird to survive harsh Arctic winters. Recreations of traditional life are juxtaposed with modern life in Sanikiluaq, as both people and eiders face the challenges posed by changing sea ice and ocean currents disrupted by the massive hydroelectric dams powering eastern North America.



"Tuurngait" - by Paul-Emile Boucher



Genre/type: Animation short - 6 mins
An Inuit child wanders away from his village, fascinated by a wild bird. His father follows his trail, determined to find him before he gets lost on the ice floe.

"Chasing Ice" - by Jeff Orlowski

Genre/type: Full Feature Documentary
"Chasing Ice" is the story of one man's mission to change the tide of history by gathering undeniable evidence of our changing planet. Within months of his first trip to Iceland, photographer James Balog conceived the boldest expedition of his life: The Extreme Ice Survey. With a band of young adventurers in tow, Balog began deploying revolutionary time-lapse cameras across the brutal Arctic to capture a multi-year record of the world's changing glaciers. It takes years for Balog to see the fruits of his labor. His hauntingly beautiful videos compress years into seconds and capture ancient mountains of ice in motion as they disappear at a breathtaking rate. "Chasing Ice" depicts a photographer trying to deliver compelling evidence and hope to our carbon-powered planet.



PROGRAM - Trophy Room (5th floor)

• **Saturday:**

- 10:30a "Into the Cold" by Sebastian Copeland
(lunch break)
- 1:00p Hurtigruten promotional video
- 1:45p Bill Gasperini - "Antarctica: Atlantic Odyssey Voyage" - Q&A to follow
- 2:05p Bill Gasperini - "Nenets: The Journey North" - Q&A to follow
- 3:00p "Imiqutailaq: Path of the Arctic Tern" by Geoff Green / Students On Ice
- 4:00p "Being Caribou" by Leanne Allison and Karsten Heuer



• **Sunday:**

- 10:30a Hurtigruten promotional video
- 11:15a Lou Sapienza - "Hunt for the Lost Squadron" - Q&A to follow
(lunch break)
- 1:30p Episode #2 of "Journey to the Edge of the World"
- 2:30p Episode #3 of "Journey to the Edge of the World"

