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41st **DUNDEE MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL**

**5th-7th
December
2025
Dundee
41st Year
"Inspiring outdoor
adventure"**

Featuring
Leo Houlding
Kevin Woods
Shona Marshall
Sean Green

PLUS
Four Film Programmes including the
Vancouver Mountain Film Festival World Tour
Displays and Exhibitions



DUNDEE MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL (2025)

A Warm Welcome

41st Year

The Dundee Mountain Film Festival is the UK's longest running mountain film festival. It showcases an outstanding programme of speakers, as well as award-winning films and exhibitions. This year we move to a new venue, Abertay University (entrance via Old College building), and will present an evening programme on the 5th December and a full day's programme on the 6th, all featuring films and personal appearances. There is also one extra screening on the 7th December in the Dundee Contemporary Arts (see inside back page for details). The festival will also show supporting exhibitions of art, organisation stands and displays.

DON'T MISS THIS CHANCE TO HEAR, SEE AND EXPERIENCE STORIES OF COURAGE, ADVENTURE AND EXPLORATION.

Friday 5th December 7pm

Tickets £14

The focus that evening is on exploring uncharted territory by ski and snowboard, journeys that are taken amidst stunning scenery. Adventurers share a passion for the unknown in daylight, but we also look at the perspective of shapes and shadows that take on a whole new meaning in the dead of night.

VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL WORLD TOUR

Saturday 6th December 9.30am

Tickets £8

We highlight the contributions women have made to mountaineering over the years. How they conquered adversity in health, how they followed in the footsteps of female climbing pioneers and how we connect with the land we walk on through science and art.

Saturday 6th December 2pm

Tickets £12

These films show what can be done through the sheer power of mind over matter. An amputee, a young girl with autism, high-altitude skiers and a ground-breaking water-skier will prove that while there's a will there's a way. Gripping and very much edge-of-your-seats entertainment.

Saturday 6th December 7pm

Tickets £17

Grizzly bears, strength-sapping skiing odysseys, ultimate climbing adventures, climate changes - it's all there. Oh, and an appearance in one documentary by pop icon Miley Cyrus. The DMFF promises a wide diversity of film content, and delivers every time!

SEE BACK PAGE FOR TICKET DETAILS

Sunday 7th December, Dundee Contemporary Arts, 6pm. [See page 7 for ticket details](#) ►

Main sponsors



DMFF acknowledges support from



Friday Evening

5th December, Abertay University, 7pm

Tickets **£14.00**



Presenting sponsor Carn Dearg MC



A Baffin Vacation - Love on Ice

Film 2025 USA, 26 minutes, Directors Rush Sturges and Skip Armstrong

We join adventurers Erik and Sarah on an epic Baffin Vacation as they kite ski north along the remote coastline of Baffin. Over their 69 day holiday they ski mountains, climb an epic big wall, and cross a glacier in search of new rivers to white water kayak. Stunning scenery and adventure in this remote and Arctic landscape.

Night Shift

Film 2024, Bulgaria, 14 minutes Director Rus Vavrilov

Hard light rips the fabric of the night. Darkness transforms in to creeping shadows, dancing in the feet of their masters. A strange cubic form of life lurks through the forest, seeking a particular piece of rock. Consumed by darkness, without colour and perspective we are dancing on the edge of shadow, making our way through the complex system of rock formations. Solving a puzzle that cannot be solved in daytime. Creating moves, as if defying the laws of physics.



Into Altai

Film 2024, France, 36 minutes, Director Yannick Boissenot

This film takes us deep into the Tavan Bogd massif, nestled in the Mongolian Altai Mountains. Camille Armand, Pierre Hourticq, and Victor Daviet share a common passion — not only for the mountains, but also for exploring remote and unfamiliar lands. Tavan Bogd — literally “The Five Sacred Mountains” — refers to a group of peaks steeped in symbolism and legend. For two weeks, a yurt will serve as their base camp, allowing them to explore this little-known massif on skis and snowboards. But what are they really looking for in these mountains?

Interval of 30 minutes

The Highland Alpine

Kevin Woods

Film-maker and adventurer Kevin Woods visits Dundee as part of an autumn tour, focusing on his book Wild, which tells of his recent climbing of all the Munros in a single winter. The challenges are obvious – extreme weather conditions and thousands of metres of ascent and descent. There's an accompanying feature film, which is available on Amazon Prime. As well as a mountaineer and film-maker, Kevin writes books – about mountains, of course – and relaxes by playing the drums! In fact, had the outdoors not gripped Kevin so tightly, he might have been a full-time drummer. Music's loss is climbing's gain!



Saturday Morning



6th December, VIMFF World Tour Abertay University, 9.30am

Tickets £8.00



Presenting sponsors The Grampian Club and The Munro Society



Footsteps

Film 2024, UK, 33 minutes, Director Jimmy Hyland

Four Female Scottish Mountaineers follow in the footsteps, nearly 70 years after three Scottish friends pioneered the first ever all female expedition and ascent of the Jugal Mountains in the Nepalese Himalaya. Only five expeditions have explored the region since and it remains remote and ready for exploration. This film follows the four Scottish Mountaineers as they seek new skiing and climbing routes above the Jugal Glacier and explore what success in the mountains looks like – environmentally, morally, culturally and personally. Pauline Sanderson, a previous speaker at the DMFF is one of the group of four.

Lost Art of the land

Film 2024, Scotland, 9 minutes, Director Phoebe Sleath

Phoebe Sleath is a geology PhD student and artist based in Aberdeen. In July 2024, she joined an Artist's Residency with Sail Britain, travelling on a sailing boat to the Small Isles and Isle of Skye. With a watercolour sketchbook in hand, she followed in the footsteps of early geologists to document the rocks and landscape, while climbing, walking, and sailing around the islands. This short film explores how we connect with land, showing that science, art and adventure are not separate ways of knowing, but part of the same deep conversation with the Earth that connects us all. She is the DMFF artist in residence 2025.

Lorraine's 'Ups 'n' Doons' (Kevin Woods film)

Film 2024, Scotland, 30 minutes, Director Kevin Woods

Mountaineer Lorraine McCall battles through bracken, bogs, and cancer recovery, making an epic circumnavigation of Scotland's 231 Grahams during the wettest summer on record.

Interval of 30 minutes

A Dogged Full House

Shona Marshall

Shona Marshall is one of a select band who have completed a "full house" – 282 Munros, 227 Munro tops, 222 Corbetts, 231 Grahams, 140 Donalds, 34 Furths and mountains of Munro height in the rest of the UK and Ireland. Accompanying her all the way has been a 9-year-old terrier called Betty, a canine companion like no other. A truly top dog! In just four years, owner and dog have hiked a total of 415 hill days, covering a distance of some 5,600 miles and ascending 1,755,000ft, which is equivalent to more than 60 times the height of Everest. It was, funnily enough, a trek to Everest base camp where Shona caught the walking bug and decided to own a dog. The rest, as they say, is history. Shona will be delivering the Irvine Butterfield Memorial lecture.



Saturday Afternoon

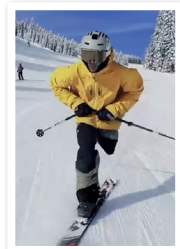


6th December, VIMFF World Tour Abertay University, 2pm

Tickets **£12.00**



Presenting sponsor Dundee Mountain Club



2 legs is 2 easy Film 2024, Canada, 6 minutes, Director Tamara Susa

Colorado's Steve Karczewski was born with bone cancer in his left leg. After a year of chemotherapy his leg was amputated above the knee in order to prevent the cancer from spreading. Steve has never known what it is like to have two legs, and that hasn't prevented him from doing anything and everything he's ever wanted as an outdoor athlete. He played different sports and picked up skiing and mountain biking right around middle school. Steve was recruited by Challenge Aspen in 2008 and they trained him to ski without the prosthesis and with outriggers (skis at the end of his poles). Steve decided to ditch the outriggers as well, and continue his skiing career with regular poles, and on one ski, which is uncommon amongst amputee athletes.

Barefoot Pilot Film 2024, Canada, 15 minutes, Director Leo Hoorn and Steve Henderson

This short film follows professional skier and stuntman, Rory Bushfield, as he grapples with his past by living in the present. His latest idea is something only he could have dreamt up – to barefoot waterski behind his airplane. A journey through Rory's past reveals the experiences that have shaped him. From skiing and aviation to love and loss – these are the pillars of his life that drive him to live large.

Egoland Film 2022, Spain, 20 minutes, Director Ignasa Lopez

Marek Molek and Bruno Grassi are on the verge of reaching the summit of The Great Troll, the last and most difficult unclimbed mountain. A heavy storm, exhaustion and adverse snow conditions prevent them from actually reaching the summit, which is very near. Bruno and Marek argue about whether or not they should tell the truth. During the hazardous descent, one of them will attempt to persuade the other one by any means. The film is an animation and the story and mountain are fiction.

Freya Film 2024, Norway, 4 minutes, Director Natasha Brooks

Feel inspired by 9-year-old Freya, who shares how she uses climbing as a practice to lean into discomfort and fear to help her navigate her neurodiversity. A heartfelt and inspiring short film about a young girl with autism who embarks on a climbing adventure with her family. Through her eyes, we are reminded of how a simple climb can deepen bonds and bring out the best in us.

Tien Shan Dream Film 2024, Canada, 26 minutes, Director Kai Smart and Morgan Tien

This film follows a team of international skiers as they embark on a two-week glacier traverse through the Northern Tien Shan mountain range in Kazakhstan. These 4000+ metre peaks host an active scientific community, which are home to some of the longest-standing glacier and cosmic radiation experiments in the world. Through one of the most challenging endeavours each team member has ever attempted, discover what it takes to pull off an expedition of this magnitude.

Interval of 30 minutes

Chasing the Unknown Sean Green

Sean Green is called the "Grizzly Munroist", and while Shona Marshall's constant companion is her dog, Sean's is his mountain bike. Sean has ridden or carried his mountain bike over the summits of all 282 Munros – sometimes climbing them with the bike on his back and, perhaps more scarily, cycling down them. It's taken him eight-and-a-half years and puts a different slant on the phrase "top gear"! It's estimated around 8,000 have "completed" all the Munros, but few and far between can match Sean's efforts and his combined love for the outdoors and mountain biking.



Saturday Evening



6th December, VIMFF World Tour Abertay University, 7pm

Tickets **£17.00**



Presenting sponsor Tayside Mountain Rescue



Meta

Film 2024, Germany, 19 minutes, Director Annette Wahl

On June 28, 1870, Meta Brevoort embarked on a daring quest to become the first to summit La Meije in the Dauphiné Alps. Opting for the prominent peak Doigt de Dieu, her party realised too late that the true summit, Grand Pic de la Meije, stood just a few metres higher. An impassable knife-edged ridge thwarted their final ascent. In a thrilling homage to Brevoort, Maria Granberg retraces her steps, scaling La Meije and delving into the rich legacy of a woman unjustly overlooked in mountaineering history.

Return of the Great Bear

Film 2024, Canada, 19 minutes, Director Natasha When and Ian McAllister

This film is an inspiring story of people coming together to make a difference for wildlife, and what it takes to make change. Featuring Chief Councillor of the Kitasoo/Xai'xais Nation Douglas Neasloss, renowned bear biologist Wayne McCrory and pop icon Miley Cyrus, this short documentary explores the past and potential future of grizzly bear conservation, with stunning wildlife cinematography from Ian McAllister.

Odyssey of Loppa

Film 2024, Norway, 15 minutes, Director Anders Vestergaard and Lisen Strom

Two Norwegian athletes, Thea and Lisen, go on an epic four-day ski-touring adventure exploring Loppa, an Arctic peninsula in the far north in Norway. Odyssey of Loppa follows them as they set out on an undiscovered route passing by fjords and mountain passes whilst camping along the way. The film is an ode to a relatively undiscovered area where few people ski-tour. It's an ambitious tour where the women have to navigate challenging avalanche terrain, steep contours and difficult route findings whilst negotiating cold temperatures day and night.

1st Day of Winter

Film 2024, Slovakia, 8 minutes, Director Mitja Legat

A fairytale about the great wizard Zimnik, who is on a mission to save winters, as he is faced with the climate changes affecting his beloved season with greater force each passing year. We follow the epic task through the eyes of a snowboarder, fighting with the mishaps of Zimnik's endeavour!

Interval of 30 minutes

Exposed

Leo Houlding

The climbing career of Leo Houlding stems from his first outing aged 10, and he became Junior Indoor Climbing Champion in 1996. A stellar career followed, including the 2007 Altitude Everest Expedition, which retraced the last steps of George Mallory and Andrew Irvine. In 2020, Houlding's entire family reached the summit of the Piz Badile, including his seven-year-old daughter, who climbed it unaided (the youngest ever to reach the summit) and his 3-year-old son (carried on his mother's back).



Sunday Evening

7th December, Dundee Contemporary Arts 6pm

DMFF in association with DCA present



3,000 feet

The Highlander, the Early Mountaineers and Scotland's Highest Mountains

A film by Kevin Woods and Lindsay Hill 95 minutes

This is the remarkable story of the origins of Scottish mountaineering and of Hugh Thomas Munro, the man whose name has become synonymous with Scotland's highest mountains.

While modern-day athletes test themselves against these timeless mountain summits, Munro's enduring list of "Mountains Exceeding 3,000 Feet in Height" has evolved into a cultural cornerstone of modern-day Scotland, building a legacy that Munro himself could never have imagined. Scottish mountaineering as we know it originated in the sciences, academia and the arts. But these hill-going pioneers came across a society in the Highland glens that had only just undergone immense upheaval with far-reaching consequences. Their journeys bridged societies, language, class and culture in pursuit of the very summits we still climb to this day.

After the screening there will be a Q and A with Lindsay Hill.

For tickets, go to

<https://www.dca.org.uk/events/gqp-3000-feet-the-highlander-the-early-mountaineers-and-scotlands-highest-mountains/>

VENUES

Abertay University, December 5th-6th. DD1 1HG; **DCA**, Nethergate, December 7th. DD1 4DY



Places to eat

- 1 **DCA**, 152 Nethergate, DD1 4DY
- 2 **The Paddock**, 113 Nethergate, DD1 4DH
- 3 **The Phoenix**, 103 Nethergate, DD1 4DH
- 4 **St Andrews Brewing Company**, 2-3 Shore Terrace, DD1 3AH
- 5 **Tony Macaroni**, 15 Whitehall St, DD1 4AA
- 6 **Wetherspoon**, 67-71 Reform Street, DD1 1SP
- 7 **Barrelman**, 100-108 Commercial Street, DD1 2AJ
- 8 **McDonald's**, 21/25 Reform Street, DD1 1SG
- 9 **Nando's**, 2-4 Nethergate, DD1 4EY
- 10 **Gallery 48**, 48 West Port, DD1 5ER

Information And Ticket Details

✉ Email: mail@dmff.org.uk
🌐 Website: www.dmff.co.uk
f Dundee Mountain Film Festival
X @DMFF5



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Patron: Chris Tiso

Sponsors: Tiso, Scottish Mountaineering Trust, Grampian Club, Dundee Mountain Club, Carn Dearg MC and The Munro Society.

The Festival Committee gratefully acknowledges the assistance of **Avertical World** and **Craigdon Mountain Sports**

Dundee Mountain Film Festival (DMFF) Society is a registered Scottish charity No SC 029267. Anyone wishing to support or become involved in the festival is invited to make contact via one of the options above. There will be a prize raffle on Friday and Saturday evenings. With proceeds going to Tayside Mountain Rescue.

DMFF reserves the right to amend the programme and no refund will be given other than in exceptional circumstances specifically related to the festival, at the discretion of the Festival Committee.

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FROM

Tiso,

22/24 Whitehall Street,
Dundee, DD1 4AF
Tel: 01382 221153

Avertical World,

7/11 Blinshall Street,
Dundee, DD1 5DF
Tel: 01382 201901

Craigdon Mountain Sports,

32 Scott Street,
Perth, PH1 5EH
Tel: 01738 633311

Tiso Perth Outdoor Experience,

Unit 1, Highland Gateway, Inveralmond,
Perth, PH1 3EE
Tel: 01738 634464

By post: Application form below.

At the door during the festival (subject to availability)

Online: www.dmff.org.uk and follow links.

An admin fee will apply. At the Saturday morning and afternoon sessions only, children under 5 will be free, 12 and under will be half price. These concessions only available at the door.

POSTAL TICKET APPLICATION FORM

Please send this application form to: DMFF, 51 Pitairlie Road, Newbigging, Dundee, DD5 3RH, Tel 01382 370315.

..... Tickets for Friday Evening 5th December 7pm	£14
..... Tickets for Saturday Morning 6th December 9.30am	£8
..... Tickets for Saturday Afternoon 6th December 2pm	£12
..... Tickets for Saturday Evening 6th December 7pm	£17
..... Combined Friday 5th and Saturday 6th	£40

I enclose a cheque for £..... payable to DUNDEE MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL, along with a stamped addressed envelope please. (PLEASE PRINT).

Name

Address

Tel **E-mail**

Please indicate if you wish these details to be retained on the DMFF mailing list, which will only be used in connection with Dundee Mountain Film Festival - YES ☐ NO ☐

If you are on the DMFF mailing list and wish to be removed please circle here - REMOVE