

Flussfilmfest Berlin – Wild & Scenic Film Festival on Tour

January 22-24, 2016, Movimiento

Film synopsis

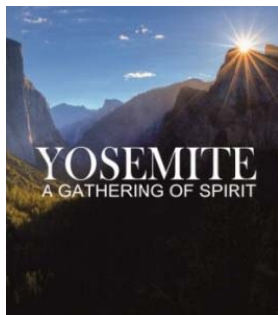
OV: English original version

OmU: Original version with German subtitles

OmenglU: Original version with English subtitles

Friday, January 22, 2016, 18:00- 23:00

Wild und berauschend: Von Flüssen und Vordenkern



YOSEMITE: A GATHERING OF SPIRIT

150 years ago, the landmark federal act, The Yosemite Grant, signed by Abraham Lincoln, forever preserved the Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias. Visionary Americans like Lincoln, Muir and Roosevelt understood that the wonders of the American wilderness are not only our inheritance, but our responsibility. Yosemite Conservancy partnered with renowned filmmakers, Ken Burns and Dayton Duncan to bring this amazing time in America's conservation history to life. (USA, 2013, 25 min, director: Ken Burns)



CHUITNA: MORE THAN SALMON ON THE LINE

"Chuitna" chronicles the journey of conservation-minded fly fishermen who travel to Alaska's unspoiled Chuitna Watershed to wade waist-deep into its salmon-rich waters and the fight to defeat the proposed Chuitna Coal Mine. With every cast and every conversation with the frontier Alaskans fighting to protect their homeland, the travelers obtain a deeper understanding of the mine's devastating impact. (OV; USA, 2013, 30 min, director: Trip Jennings)



RETURN OF THE RIVER

A film about the Elwha river on the Olympic Peninsula in Washington, the largest dam removal project in the history of the United States, and the extraordinary effort to restore an ecosystem and set a river free. (OV; USA, 2014. 69 min, directors: John Gussman und Jessica Plumb)

Short films:



FIGHT FOR ARENG VALLEY

In a remote valley in Southwest Cambodia, the Chong people fight to protect their forests, livelihood and heritage from the looming construction of a hydroelectric dam. Harboring over 31 endangered species, including the Siamese crocodile, the Asian elephant, and bears, Areng Valley has been deemed a biodiversity hotspot by international conservation experts. Yet despite scientific reports deeming the dam both environmentally and economically disastrous, the Government of Cambodia is still considering to go ahead with this project. (USA, 2014, 8 min, director: Kalyanee Mam)



RIVER OF EDEN

Join filmmaker Pete McBride, a National Geographic Freshwater Hero, on a journey into the Fijian Highlands to discover why the locals said “no” to easy money from resource extraction, and how they turned to tourism to fund a conservation area that protects one of the most beautiful rivers on Earth.



FROM THE SPAWNING GROUNDS

Plunge into the clear cold water of the Salmon River and get a fish-eye view of the river and its inhabitants. The underwater footage of salmon and steelhead is accompanied by a song and poem from Karuk artist Brian D. Tripp. (USA, 2011, 3 min)



HIDDEN RIVERS OF SOUTHERN APPALACHIA

Biodiversity. It's in the rivers of the Amazon, the jungles of Borneo, the coral reefs of Belize... oh, and the creeks of Tennessee. That's right, southern Appalachia is a little-known hotspot for aquatic life and is home to some wildly diverse fish, mussels, salamanders, crayfish and other critters. Hidden Rivers takes an immersive look at the little-known creatures of these waters, their striking beauty and extreme vulnerability. The films also reveal how some Southerners are finding new ways to explore and celebrate this precious life, and reminding us all that biodiversity is everywhere and rivers are always deeper than you think! (USA, 2013, 4 min)



SACRED HEADWATERS

The shared birthplace of three salmon rivers in Northern Canada, the traditional territory of the Tahltan First Nation, and home to an incredible ecosystem of large mammals, the Sacred Headwaters is at risk of losing all that makes it sacred to resource extraction. (Canada, 2012, 4 min)

Saturday, January 23, 2016, 11:00 - 14:00

FlussForscherMatinee



THE LOST FISH: THE STRUGGLE TO SAVE PACIFIC LAMPREY
One of the Pacific Northwest's oldest fish is disappearing, and along with it the sacred place it holds among many American Indian Tribes. For a species that has squeezed through most of the earth's great extinctions, the sharp declines in Pacific Lamprey populations are a signal of how severely we have changed river ecosystems.



POWELL TO POWELL. PORTRAITS OF THE UPPER COLORADO
In summer 2012, graduates from Colorado College walked, kayaked, and rafted from Rocky Mountain National Park to Lake Powell along the Colorado River. Along the way they talked to over 30 people involved in the Colorado – farmers, ranchers, water managers, professional rafters, conservationists, and more. Their journey is told in 5 chapters. (USA, 2013, 24 min)



THE STRONG PEOPLE
2011 marked the beginning of a three-year river restoration project on the Elwha River in Washington State, with the removal two dams, and its effects on the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe. The intricate histories of the Tribe and the River weave together a story of ecological restoration and cultural integrity. (USA, 2013, 35 min)

Short films

THE NEW ENVIRONMENTALISTS: MARSHLAND DREAMS
Iraq's Mesopotamia Marshes had been a vital life force for centuries until Saddam Hussein destroyed them with a devastating military maneuver. Azzam Alwash has taken on the challenge of restoring the marshes to their original splendor. (USA/Iraq, 2013, 4.5min)



WATER & WOOD
After more than a century of 'cleaning' dead wood out of our rivers, we have accidentally removed critical life support systems needed for salmon and many other river creatures... and it's now time for some heavy lifting. Water & Wood shows how far some restoration groups are going to get this important habitat element back into rivers. Captured as part of the forthcoming film Willamette Futures. (USA, 2013, 4 min)



DELTA DAWN
The Colorado River hasn't kissed the sea in almost two decades — until the spring of 2014 when an experimental pulse of water was released into this forgotten delta. A team of river runners followed the water to witness this unprecedented restoration effort, and attempted to be the only, and potentially the last to float the Colorado River to the sea by paddle board. With unpredictable adventure as the backdrop, filmmaker Pete McBride tells the story of Western water, a challenged Colorado River and the uplifting potential for environmental restoration via collaboration, all through his repeated experiences chasing a river to the sea.

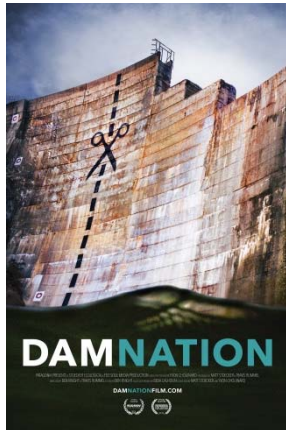
Saturday, Januar 23, 2016, 18:00 - 22:00

Damnation: Haben Wildflüsse in Europa eine Zukunft?



ONE FOR THE RIVER: THE VJOSA STORY

The Vjosa river is the longest free flowing river in the Balkan region. Two kayak enthusiasts explore this magnificent river from its source to its mouth. (OmenglU; Slovenia, 2014, 29 min, Leeway-Collective)



DAMNATION

This powerful film odyssey across America explores the sea change in the attitude from pride in big dams as engineering wonders to the growing awareness that our own future is bound to the life and health of our rivers. Dam removal has moved beyond the fictional Monkey Wrench Gang to go mainstream. Where obsolete dams come down, rivers bound back to life, giving salmon and other wild fish the right of return to primeval spawning grounds after decades without access. (OmU; USA, 2014, 88 min, directors: Ben Knight and Travis Rummel)

Sunday, January 24, 2016, 11:00 - 14:00

Der Wilde Osten



WILDES LEBEN AM GROSSEN STROM: DAS BIOSPHÄRENRESERVAT MITTELELBE

A portrait of Germany's oldest Biosphere reserve along the Elbe river. (Germany, 2014, 50 min, director: Peter Simank)



NOBODY'S RIVER

Four women journey down one of the last free flowing rivers of the world and discover raw beauty, industrial wastelands, devastating loss, and unbridled joy. (OV; USA, 2012, 76 min, director: Skip Armstrong)

Short films:



DREAM

I wonder... if... one day... When a newbie kayaker goes paddling, he discovers a posse of pros on the river and wonders whether someday he could be that cool. A daydream in the eddy transforms the purple-helmeted rookie into a whitewater Adonis. Join kayaker Ben Marr as he takes us to a world where a paddler's wildest fantasies come true.

Sunday, January 24, 2016, 17:00 - 21:00 Uhr

Was bleibt? Staudammkonflikte weltweit



DAMOCRACY

Damocracy is a short documentary that exposes the myth of dams as 'green' energy through two examples from Amazonia and Mesopotamia: the Belo Monte Dam in Brazil and the Ilisu Dam in Turkey. The documentary shows the potential disasters these dams would cause on cultural heritage, wildlife and local communities who rely on the rich natural resources provided by the Tigris and Xingu rivers. The film also questions the sanity of climate change solutions that depend on the destruction of 'the lungs of the Earth' and 'the cradle of civilization'. It is a call to action to save this priceless natural and cultural heritage being gambled for the interests of a few. (Brazil & Turkey, 2012, 34 min)

Short films:



FIGHTING FOR THE FUTALEUFU

In the 1980's boaters successfully navigated the Futaleufu River in Chile, and eco-tourism flourished, bringing vibrant opportunities and jobs to the community. Local activists and boaters now fight to preserve this unique river and its community ... a fight, too, for the future of Chilean Patagonia. (USA, 2013, 16 min)

NEW ENVIRONMENTALISTS: EAGLE EYES

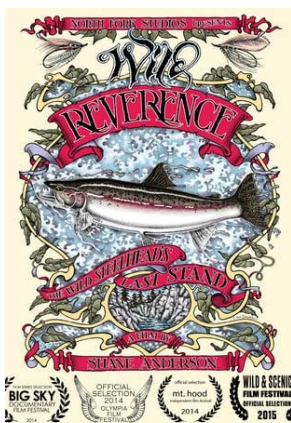
Overcoming a history of traumatic violence, Ruth Buendía united the Asháninka people in a powerful campaign against large-scale dams that would have uprooted indigenous communities that were recovering from Peru's brutal civil war.



FIGHT FOR ARENG VALLEY

In a remote valley in Southwest Cambodia, the Chong people fight to protect their forests, livelihood and heritage from the looming construction of a hydroelectric dam. Harboring over 31 endangered species, including the Siamese crocodile, the Asian elephant, and bears, Areng Valley has been deemed a biodiversity hotspot by international conservation experts. Yet despite scientific reports deeming the dam both environmentally and economically disastrous, the Government of Cambodia is still considering to go ahead with this project. (USA, 2014, 8 min, director: Kalyanee Mam)

Closing:



WILD REVERENCE: THE WILD STEELHEAD'S LAST STAND

In the final film of the festival, fisheries biologist and film maker Shane Anderson explores the fate of the wild steelhead in the Pacific Northwest. (OV; USA, 2012, 76 min, director: Shane Anderson)