

SCINEMA

INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE FILM FESTIVAL 2018

ANIMALS PROGRAM (G)

RUN TIME 100mins SHORT PROGRAM / 160mins WITH FINAL DOCUMENTARY

SCIENCE MEETS MAKING (Australia) 4:44 mins

By James O'Hanlon

Science is a creative process. Every time you ask a question or run an experiment you are doing something that has never been done before. When presented with a new problem, scientists are given the challenge to come up with finding creative solutions using whatever skills and tools they have at hand.

PERSON OF THE FOREST (USA) 16:41 mins

By Melissa Lesh

In the disappearing lowland rainforests of Borneo, research is underway to uncover unique cultural behaviors in wild orangutans.

Photographer Tim Laman, researcher Cheryl Knott, and explorer Robert Suro shed new light on the similarities between ourselves and our ancient ancestors, before it's too late.

SPIRAL (France) 5:00 mins

By Samuel Guiton

Follow the incredible journey of a snail thrown into hell, on its way back to heaven. Produced in association with the National Geographic Wild and RED Digital Cinema.

LOOK (Lithuania) 3:30 mins

By Meinardas Valkevičius

Human activity does not always have a positive effect on our planet. This short animated film explores natural cycles of exchange between humans and animals. Dare to look and change the world.

PROTECTORS OF THE PENGUINS (UK) 5:23 mins

By Jessie Ayles and Meigan Henry

Meet the people who stand between the world's last wild populations of African penguins and extinction. They're black and white and full of charm, but African penguins need more than charisma to avoid extinction. Over the past century, the seabird's population has dropped almost 95 percent due to myriad oceanic woes – entanglement in ghost fishing gear, loss of prey, fouling in spilt oil, and more.

Near Stoney Point on South Africa's Western Cape, a dedicated group of people isn't giving up on the penguin just yet. Day after day, Cuan McGeorge and his colleagues monitor the breeding colony for injured birds, which they transfer to a seabird hospital run by the South African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds. Every bird they successfully save bolsters the species' potential for the future.

MEXICAN FISHING BATS (Canada) 5:56 mins

By Edward M. Roqueta and Meigan Henry

In the Sea of Cortez, Mexico, researchers delve into the mystery of a bat that makes its living at sea. When the sun sets a tiny bat weighing about as much as five nickels emerges from the boulder-covered hillsides on Isla Partida and heads out to sea. To Edward Hurme, a PhD candidate at the University of Maryland who is working in partnership with Tel-Aviv University, the Mexican fishing bat is as much a marine mammal as any whale or sea lion that makes its home in Baja California. And night, according to Hurme, "is when the magic happens." All night, the bats swoop across the sea surface, snagging fish that still elude capture by the researchers despite their boats, nets, and high-tech gear. This film follows Hurme and his team in action, as they untangle the mystery of how these endangered bats find their prey.

THE ANOMOLIES: VENOM RACE (USA) 7:42 mins

By Nathan Dappen

Most scorpions are harmless to humans, but in the deserts of North America, one group of species, collectively called striped bark scorpions produce venom that is potentially lethal and extremely painful. Despite their potent venom, striped bark scorpions are still a favorite meal of a small rodent called the grasshopper mouse. After decades of work, biologists have discovered that this tiny mouse may be the key to explaining how and why striped bark scorpion venom is so toxic.

LAWS OF THE LIZARD (USA) 44:20 mins

By Neil Losin and Nathan Dappen

When scientists ask big questions about the rules of nature, they often seek out unlikely creatures – lizards called anoles – to find the answers. In this film, two filmmakers embark on a year-long adventure to reveal the surprising story of anoles, the most important lizards in the world!

SPIRIT OF DISCOVERY (USA) 60:00 mins

By Eliana Alvarez Martinez

Walter Munk's brilliant failures have done more for the world than a thousand men's ordinary successes, but can he muster another one for the threatened flying Devil Rays that share his name?

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