

SCIENCE & KNOWLEDGE



ANCIENT EARTH 52' & 90' 4K

By Alexis de Favitski
Co-produced by ZED & CuriosityStream for France Télévisions
Delivery: November 2019

TRAVEL BACK IN TIME TO VISIT THE FIVE MOST POWERFUL EXTINCTION EVENTS IN EARTH'S HISTORY.

Today, 10 million species are living on the planet. But they represent only 4% of all the species that have inhabited Earth since its creation. What happened to the remaining 96%? Who were these species? Why did they vanish forever?

At least five times in history, our planet has suffered from what we call "mass extinctions". This documentary sheds new light on the kind of life that existed on five of the prior Earth Periods. Like a journey back in time starting 250 million years ago, we will revisit the extraordinary lifeforms that evolved during Earth's most significant geologic periods, and the cataclysmic events that resulted in their demise.

A scientific investigation featuring spectacular CGI and VFX that will recreate the creatures that lived at that time to bring this ancient world back to life.



THE PYRAMIDS: SOLVING THE MYSTERY 6x47'

Created by François Pomès - Directed by Lionel Langlade, Marie Perrin & Maud Guillaumin
Produced by Label News for RMC Découverte & Science & Vie TV
Delivery: April 2019

FROM CAIRO TO MEIDUM, EGYPT'S ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES FILMED FOR THE FIRST TIME BY DRONE TO REVEAL THEIR HIDDEN TREASURES...

The construction of the Egyptian pyramids remains an unsolved mystery. Numerous hidden pyramids and buried vestiges have yet to be discovered. But today, Egyptologists and archaeologists have developed a new tool which uses aerial and satellite images to provide valuable fresh clues about the position, construction, and evolution of these edifices.

Through each episode, thanks to CGI, satellite imagery and cutting-edge aerial archeology, this series sets out to decode the mysteries of the pyramids' construction, and to recreate Egypt as it was more than 5000 years ago.

Contributors: Zahi Hawass, Mark Lehner & Vassil Dobrev

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THE WEATHER: THE RACE TO FORECAST 52' & 90'

By Stéphane Bégoïn
Produced by ZED for France Télévisions
With the support of the Creative Europe programme of the European Union
Delivery: April 2019

LOOK AT THE MOST SPECTACULAR WEATHER PHENOMENA AND DISCOVER HOW THE METEOROLOGICAL RESEARCH HELPS AVOIDING DISASTERS.

More than any other science, meteorology is a matter of worldwide cooperation. To deliver the most accurate weather forecasts, scientists are continually developing ever-more sophisticated computerized models, and taking more and more measurements. Today, 24-hour forecasts are 95% reliable and 3-day forecasts are 80% reliable.

How do scientists predict the weather and, each year, improve their predictions? How do they help us to avoid disasters? From Japanese snowfall to the deserts of Namibia, from Central American hurricanes to Mediterranean storms, aboard the researcher's boats or aircrafts, or inside the satellites launching stations this documentary provides a unique immersion into the biggest weather study missions currently in progress with additional cutting edge 3D modelling and graphic sequences.



RIVERS IN THE SKY 52'

By Pascal Cuisot
Co-produced by ZED & GRIFA Filmes for ARTE France
Delivery: January 2020

A WONDERFUL EPIC, OVERLAND AND IN THE AIR INVESTIGATION ON THE EXTRAORDINARY AND YET LITTLE-KNOWN NATURAL PHENOMENON OF THE FLYING RIVERS.

Often considered as the beating "heart of the Earth", the trees in the Amazon absorb water from the ground and pump out billion of tonnes of water vapour a day into vast "flying rivers" essential to the environmental balance. But what if this natural phenomenon was to disappear? Could it trigger an irreversible ecological disequilibrium of global proportion?

By following the scientists in the field and in their laboratories, and thanks to animated 3D sequences, the film deciphers the mechanisms of this extraordinary and little-known natural phenomenon, only recently discovered by climate experts.

A race against time to discover the Amazon rainforest from a climate perspective, questioning our planet's biological equilibrium and human responsibility.

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TSUNAMIS 52' 4K

By Pascal Guérin
Produced by ZED for ARTE France
Delivery: June 2019

A NEVER-BEFORE-SEEN INTERNATIONAL INVESTIGATION ON TSUNAMIS. WHERE DO THEY STRIKE, HOW DO THEY SUBMERGE US... AND WHAT CAN WE DO TO SURVIVE THEM?

Prior to further filming planned in Japan, China, Europe, North America, ZED's team has just completed a shooting on the "Ring of fire", in Palu, Indonesia, where a violent and very unusual tsunami recently occurred. On restricted areas and into their labs, we'll follow the UN'S hand-picked scientific team of Tsunami Hunters investigating how past and present tsunamis were formed and why they have been so deadly.

Using additional cutting edge science, 3D mapping of the Earth, and CGI reconstruction of past disasters, this groundbreaking documentary will unveil tsunamis' complex mechanics in an attempt to predict the future ones.

Contributors: Patrick Wassmer, Bernardo Aliaga Rossel, Hermann M. Fritz, Costas Synolakis, Dr. Ella Meilianda, Dr. Nazli Ismail, Christopher Gomez, Mitsuru Ayashi, Fumihico Imamura, Brian Atwater, François Schindele and Christophe Larroque.



APOLLO, THE ULTIMATE EXPERIENCE 2x45'

By François Pomès
Produced by Label News for National Geographic and RMC Découverte
Delivery: March 2019

RELIVE THE APOLLO PROGRAM AS NEVER SEEN BEFORE, TO MARK THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MANKIND'S FIRST STEP ON THE MOON.

What could be more fascinating than exploring the space program from a fresh perspective, driven by the new production processes and techniques we have today?

Thanks to full color archival images - which have now been perfectly restored by NASA - and 3D reenactment of the mission's key stages, this documentary recounts this epic adventure by detailing the journey of the men and women who took part in or aided the mission.

In order to not forget just how exceptional this feat was, these digital techniques will be used to "restore" the intensity of this unprecedented adventure into space, above and beyond the image.



HISTORY & CIVILIZATIONS



GULAG, THE STORY 3x52'

By Patrick Rotman, Nicolas Werth & François Aymé
Produced by KUIV Productions for ARTE France
Delivery: July 2019

100 YEARS AFTER ITS CREATION, THIS SERIES TELLS THE STORY OF THE GULAG THANKS TO PREVIOUSLY UNRELEASED DOCUMENTARY SOURCES.

A major political, historical, human and economic fact of the 20th century, the Gulag remains largely unknown. Why did the USSR create this forced-labour camps in which 20 million prisoners were exploited and worked to the bone? How did the Soviet Union create a country inside its Empire?

From the Revolution of 1917 to Gorbachev, touching on the civil war, the Great Terror, World War II, the Cold War and the death of Stalin, this series describes the workings of this extremely punitive Soviet concentration camp system. Through the exceptional fates of protagonists, both executioners and victims, famous names and anonymous figures, the history of the Gulag is deciphered in images, with previously-unreleased documentary sources and the expertise of Nicolas Werth, a renowned historian and Gulag expert.



TO KILL A QUEEN 52' & 110' 4K

By Alain Brunard
Co-produced by ZED & Be-FILMS for ARTE France
With the support of the Creative Europe
programme of the European Union
Delivery: June 2019
For the 230th anniversary of the French Revolution

THE DEATH OF A QUEEN. THE BIRTH OF A LEGEND.

Thanks to long-hidden documents of great historical value which were recently brought to light, discover how, why and in who's interest Marie Antoinette's trial was rigged.

An ambitious docudrama that takes us behind the scenes of this compelling trial to reveal its fascinating characters and decode the fateful year in which the Revolution spiraled inexorably to its doom.

Screening Room: www.zed.fr



BLUE-CHIP WILDLIFE



GENIUS SEA HUNTERS, THE THIRD DIMENSION UNVEILED 3x52' 4K

By Jérôme Julienne & John Jackson
Co-produced by ZED & ARTE G.E.I.E.
Delivery: March 2020

THROUGH BREATHTAKING UNDERWATER, AERIAL AND 4K IMAGES, EMBARK ON A SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION TO DECODE THE MOST SPECTACULAR MARINE ANIMALS' BEHAVIORS.

Thanks to some cutting-edge drone technology and a unique viewpoint from the sky, discover the wealth of tricks and tactics used by marine wildlife as never seen before. How do animals of the same species come up with such astoundingly unique methods to find and kill their prey?

From the humpback whale in Alaska's Glacier Bay trapping a school of sardines to the Patagonian orcas landing on the beach to catch sea lion cubs, from dolphins in Florida snaring mullet fish in a mud ring to Namibian hyenas infiltrating colonies of sea lions once night has fallen, this blue-chip wildlife and scientific documentary series brings us previously unseen perspectives of the genius behind these great deeps hunters.



THE FROZEN KINGDOM OF THE SNOW LEOPARD 52'

By Frédéric Larrey
Produced by ZED for NDR & Nat Geo Wild
Delivery: July 2019

A BREATHTAKING VOYAGE INTO A WILD TERRITORY TO MEET AN ICONIC YET ENDANGERED ANIMAL.

Set in the remote mountains of China and Tibet, this film follows the perilous existence of a female and her two young snow leopards, who are less than a year old, in a valley of stunning beauty with a dazzling diversity of wildlife.

Two photographer brothers came upon this lost valley in 2016 and were amazed to find it home to a dense population of snow leopards in a relatively small territory. Their discovery led to this exceptional film about an elusive big cat that is rarely caught on camera.

Screening Room: www.zed.fr



2019 COMMEMORATIONS



DECODING DA VINCI 52' 4K

By Sandra Paugam - Written by Flore Kosinetz
Co-produced by ZED & the Louvre for ARTE France
Delivery: April 2019

A FRESH LOOK AT DA VINCI'S PAINTINGS FOR THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS DEATH.

500 years after his death, Leonardo da Vinci's painting is still just as fascinating. And yet, there are only 16 surviving canvasses attributed to him, some of which are unfinished.

To understand them, one must go back to how they were produced. Through sketches and notebooks, the comparison of paintings, and the analysis of infrared reflectography – an innovative technique which reveals the drawing beneath the layer of paint – the film underlines the technical and artistic prowess of da Vinci's work and captures its meaning and emotion. It provides an original perspective on his canvasses, each an outstanding exploration of the real world and a moving testimony of a life spent trying to grasp the world through painting.



THE BATTLE FOR THE MOON: 1957-1969, FROM SPUTNIK TO APOLLO 2x52'

By Patrick Jeudy
Produced by Roche Productions for France Télévisions
Delivery: March 2019

REVISIT THE SPACE RACE TO MARK THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST STEP ON THE MOON.

Yuri Gagarin, Alan Shepard, Valentina Tereshkova, Neil Armstrong, John Glenn, Buzz Aldrin...: These spirited pilots became space pioneers and braved all kinds of danger to explore the interplanetary vastness. Beyond the scientific competition between East and West, discover the epic story of these first astronauts propelled in an unforgettable human adventure and destined to be the greatest heroes of their time.

Combining political history, technological exploits, media manipulations, psychological tension, acts of bravery and personal dramas, this full archive documentary looks back on this crucial moment in history that marked the climax of the Cold War.

Screening Room: www.zed.fr