

Friday night: Film premieres

Survivorman II

Producer, Director and Writer Les Stroud

Les Stroud's *Survivorman* is returning to television after being on hiatus for more than three years. In this first episode of the new series, Les battles the constantly cold and bleak weather of northern Norway for 10 days in the depth of winter. With only five hours of daylight sandwiched between 19-hour nights, Les must summon all his knowledge and experience to survive the harsh climate.

The Old Man River Project

Writer and Director Brett Rogers

Old Man River tells the story of Brett Rogers' 110-day expedition rowing the Mississippi with four volunteer teammates. In the process of traveling 2,400 miles through the heart of America, Rogers reveals the real challenge of a river journey is overcoming the inner struggles while battling fierce storms and an entire month of rain, sharing the river with ocean-going ships, portaging the thousand-pound boat over 17 miles, and coming face to face with some of the most intense industrial landscapes on the planet. Completing the mission means reaching the Gulf Coast, and Brett does anything it takes to reach that goal. Learn more at www.brettonthewater.com

Saturday night keynote speaker:

Mark Terry

In August, 2011 filmmaker Mark Terry won the Gemini Humanitarian Award. The Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television awarded Mark Terry this prestigious honour in recognition of his work with the United Nations in bringing the latest climate change research to international policymakers through his films.

This prestigious award marks the culmination of a career that spans almost 30 years, including an invitation from the Government of China to produce a series of documentary and dramatic films for the prestigious Museum of History in Hong Kong. More recently he produced two films about climate change – *Antarctica Challenge: A Global Warning* and *The Polar Explorer* – the films that were officially invited by the U.N. to be screened at the Copenhagen and Mexico Climate Change Conferences.

As our keynote speaker on Saturday evening, Mark will share the insights of a lifetime exploring and documenting the human condition.



The Explorers Club is an international multidisciplinary professional society dedicated to the advancement of field research and the ideal that it is vital to preserve the instinct to explore. Since its founding in 1904, the Club has served as a meeting point and unifying force for explorers and scientists worldwide.

The Club provides assistance in expedition planning, awards fieldwork grants to scientists, writers, and photographers, and honours accomplishments in exploration. The Explorers Club actively encourages public interest in exploration and the sciences through its public lectures program, publications, travel program, and other events. The Club also maintains research collections, including a library and map room, to preserve the history of the Club and to assist those interested and engaged in exploration and scientific research.



The Arts & Letters Club of Toronto was formed in 1908. Located at 14 Elm Street in downtown Toronto, Ontario, it is a meeting place for professionals in the arts, and for those men and women in whose lives the arts play an absorbing role.

The vital function of the Club is to provide a milieu for the free and vigorous exchange of ideas and opinions, where good conversation and the companionship of kindred spirits are the principal bill of fare. Neither a symbol of social status nor a marketplace for business, The Arts & Letters Club offers its members a retreat from the pressures of everyday life, in a democracy of creative minds.

The Arts & Letters Club of Toronto
and The Explorers Club of Canada

Fourth Annual Film Festival

DOCUMENTING THE ART OF EXPLORATION IV



MARCH 23 & 24, 2012

The Arts & Letters Club and The Explorers Club Fourth Annual Film Festival

March 23 and 24, 2012
14 Elm Street, Toronto, Ontario

The Canadian Chapter of **The Explorers Club** boasts some of the world's best documentary filmmakers. Don't miss this opportunity to share in their adventures, exchange ideas and immerse yourself in an exploration of documentary films.

The Arts & Letters Club in partnership with the Canadian chapter of **The Explorers Club** will present 12 films on March 23 and 24. The weekend includes a premiere episode of Les Stroud's new *Survivorman* series and Brett Roger's *Old Man River Project*. Our keynote speaker on Saturday evening will be filmmaker and climate activist Mark Terry. *(See more details about the films and Mark in this flyer.)*

Schedule

Friday March 23

7:00 pm – Reception

8:00 pm to 10:00 pm – **Survivorman II + Old Man River Project**

Saturday March 24

10:00 am to 5:30 pm

Films will screen in the Great Hall

5:30 pm to 6:30 pm

Road Stories. Join our filmmakers to discuss the art of documenting exploration.

6:30 pm to 7:00 pm – Reception

7:00 pm – Dinner

8:00 pm – Speaker

Mark Terry, director, writer, filmmaker

Many of the filmmakers will be at the film festival to discuss their work.

Saturday's Films

Polar Bears: Life on the Field of Bones *Ralph and Steven Ellis*
Nikita Ovsyanikov studies the world's most ferocious predators on Siberia's Wrangel Island. His research contradicts previously held beliefs about the solitary nature of polar bears.

Into the Arctic II *Cory Trepanier*

Three months of filming. A dozen Arctic locations. Artist Cory Trepanier brings the perspective of a passionate painter to the breathtaking Arctic wilderness.

A Story Told in Stone *Andrew Gregg*

Archaeologist Edmundo Edwards has been unearthing the history of Polynesia for almost 50 years. The Polynesian heritage was virtually lost due to disease, but Edward's discoveries are bringing that history back.

Awini: The Hands of Time *Gonzalo Rojas & Edmundo Edwards*

A second film about Edmundo Edwards follows Edmundo through the jungles of New Guinea searching for ancient cave paintings protected by a tribe that has rarely laid eyes of white people before.

Crossing Over: The Art of Jeremy Down *Mike Bernard*

Short documentary about an artist who had a near-death experience when his canoe rolled over in the BC interior. Incredible enough as is, the twist is how he was saved.

How an Artist Save the Mountain Gorilla *Jeffrey Whiting*

Two artists retrace the footsteps of legendary explorer Carl Akeley to uncover the mysteries of the man who saved the Mountain Gorilla from extinction and founded Africa's first National Park 100 years ago.

Go Death Racer *Simon Donato*

Go Death Racer follows four Canadian endurance athletes as they prepare for, and race the most famous and challenging ultra race, the Canadian Death Race.

Ellesmere Island *Ihor Macijiwksy*

Ellesmere Island National Park has a coastline deeply incised by glacial valleys and fjords. The lonely outpost of Fort Conger was used by Arctic explorers, including Robert Peary, on his 1909 journey to the pole.

Flight of the Whooping Crane *Peter Shatalow*

The true story of Bill Lishman, the man who taught geese to fly with his ultra-light aircraft. The film documents a 15-year struggle to teach the endangered Whooping Crane new migration routes.

Drain the Great Lakes *Wayne Abbott*

In captivating CGI, see what the Great Lakes depths' conceal. It's as if the water has simply been drained away, showing the shape, size and detail of underwater features, both natural and man-made.

Admission

Admission to the festival is restricted to members of The Explorers Club and The Arts & Letters Club and their friends and family.

Meals and beverages

You'll be able to satisfy your hunger as well as your soul during our film festival with wraps and soup at lunch, strawberries and cookies for those mid-afternoon munchies and a gala dinner prepared by the Arts & Letters Club's talented culinary staff. All meals, snacks, tea and coffee are included in the film festival registration fees.

Wine and beer will be available for purchase.

Prices

Friday night: Free

Saturday films + lunch: \$35

Saturday gala dinner and keynote speaker: \$35

Saturday films + lunch + gala dinner: ONLY \$60

To register

Phone The Arts & Letters Club at (416) 597-0223, select extension 2. Leave your name and phone number. A staff member will return your call to confirm your registration. You must supply a valid credit card number to the staff member at the time of registration. A refund will be paid only if the cancellation is received 48 hours prior to the event.

Please watch our websites for updates

www.artsandlettersclub.ca

www.explorersclub.ca

Cover photograph of Annie by Kyle Douglas Jeffery