

The Archaeology Channel International Film Festival

May 15 - 19, 2024 • Eugene, Oregon





WANTED

Archaeologist to do a dig at Hiron's' Drug

"If you can't find it there, then it
probably never existed."

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WELCOME to *The Archaeology Channel* International Film Festival!

Welcome to the twenty-first annual edition of TAC International Film Festival, Lane County's longest-running film festival! What we began in 2003 as an extension of our very popular website, *The Archaeology Channel*, for live audiences has grown into one of the leading film competitions in the cultural heritage genre world-wide. Thanks a million to the hundreds of people and dozens of partnering organizations and sponsors who have made this possible! Please support our sponsors and let them know that you appreciate their commitment to this unique cultural exhibition.

In today's world, we face increasing challenges in the areas of social justice and international relations. We need improved cross-cultural understanding among peoples to move the world toward resolving these issues. Studies have shown that exposing young people to other cultures helps them appreciate different modes of thinking. We believe that this positive influence applies to people of all ages. Exposing our audience to diverse cultures and the many stories that make up the collective human past is a contribution we sincerely want to make.

What once was primarily an annual exhibition of film has become, even more importantly, a meeting place for those with stories to tell and audiences to reach. We continue to develop this event as a mechanism to push forward the genre of cultural heritage media while exhibiting some of the best film productions in the world. This genre is widely admired and viewed worldwide, but filmmakers, broadcasters, indigenous groups, archaeologists, historians, educators, and others experience big challenges with program development, funding, content, and distribution. We have designed the Festival to attract and encourage communication, networking and collaboration among the interested parties, including the audience. We want to promote more, better, more widely available, and more financially feasible cultural heritage programming for people everywhere.

As always, we are very excited about the content of this year's Festival. Over the years, we've reviewed many hundreds of films from 94 countries. International participation and the quality of the films continue to grow. This year, we accepted 77 entries from 24 countries for the competition. Although these are not record numbers for the Festival, this group matches previous years in the numbers of truly fine films. We grudgingly pared the list down to a screening schedule of 27 outstanding films that are among the best in the world. These films will take you around the globe to places as far apart as Cambodia and Peru and across the human timeline from the time of the Neanderthals 80,000 and more years ago to the contemporary Indigenous Aboriginal people of Australia. As usual for our Festival, a hallmark of these films is diversity of topic, country of origin, running time, and filmmaking style.

Our continuing development of *Heritage Broadcasting Service* (heritagetac.org), our subscription video-on-demand service launched on January 1, 2021, has now created a broader context for this event and a new way for us to illustrate and promote cultural heritage through media. You can expect that some of the top Festival films of this year will soon become available for viewing on *Heritage*!

Thanks for joining us. Please take advantage of the many opportunities here to experience this event, and please share your thoughts with us and with others on an exciting film competition and the development and uses of cultural heritage media. Help us celebrate and encourage the storytellers who invest their artistry in telling the human story.

Finally, let me close with one further thought. Next year, we will conduct the 22nd annual edition of TAC Festival, continuing our third Festival decade. We will celebrate this extension of our history from May 14 to 18, 2025. Please put those dates on your calendar and plan to join us for a truly wonderful celebration!

Richard (Rick) Pettigrew, Ph.D., RPA
President and Executive Director

Archaeological Legacy Institute (ALI)

Thank You to our Sponsors & Contributors

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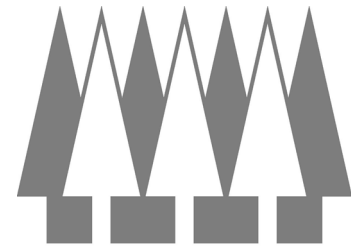
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A Quick Overview of TAC Festival 2024

A lot of exciting things are happening at this year's edition of TAC Festival. To help you get a complete picture of what is happening, here is an outline of the events and activities, listed chronologically and spanning the period of May 15-19 (Wednesday-Sunday):

- Banquet with Keynote Address by Dennis Jenkins, Gordon Tavern, 555 Oak Street (\$65/plate)
- Film Screenings, The Shedd Institute, Sheffer Recital Hall, 868 High Street (free)
 - Thursday, 7 - 10 pm
 - Friday, 7 - 10 pm
 - Saturday, 9:30 am - 7:00 pm
 - Sunday, 10 am - 7 pm
- Video Bar, The Shedd Institute; 868 High Street, Thursday through Sunday during Film Screening sessions at Sheffer Recital Hall (free)
- Saturday Social, Capitello Wines, 540 Charnelton Street; 7-10 pm (free)
- Awards Reception, Capitello Wines, 540 Charnelton Street; Sunday 7-9 pm (\$5)



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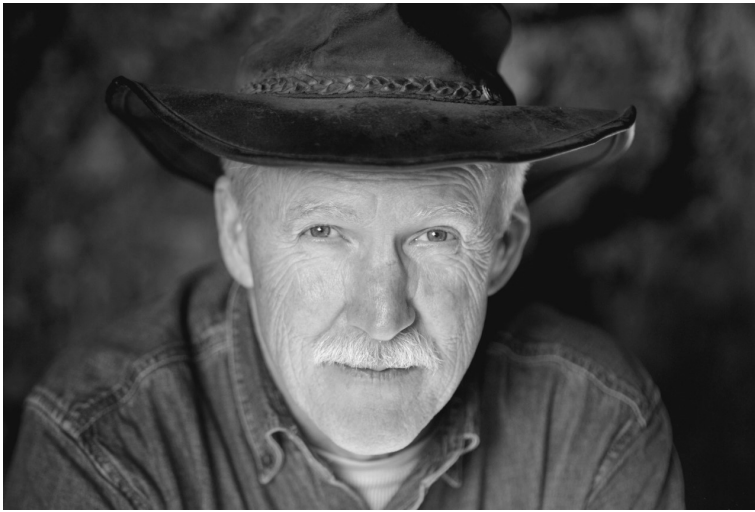
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TAC Festival Banquet
 Gordon Tavern, 555 Oak Street
 Wednesday, May 15, 6-9 pm (\$65 per plate)

The Festival Banquet kicks off our event formally with a tasty feast at the Gordon Tavern, on the second floor of the new Gordon Hotel, complete with Keynote Address by Dr. Dennis Jenkins. Enjoy a fine meal and have fun with fellow Festival-goers.

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Dennis L. Jenkins, Senior Research Associate II (Emeritus), Museum of Natural and Cultural History



Dennis Jenkins recently retired as a Senior Research Archaeologist for the Museum of Natural and Cultural History at the University of Oregon, where he received his Ph.D. in 1991. He taught and directed the University's Northern Great Basin archaeological field school in the Fort Rock, Chewaucan and Harney basins of Oregon and the Snake River Plain in Idaho from 1989 to 2022. Jenkins' research focuses on the first colonization of the Americas. When did people arrive, by what method, and direction? Who were they? What was their life like? He has also investigated obsidian sourcing and hydration, prehistoric shell bead trade and settlement-subsistence patterns of the Northern Great Basin for 37 years. He has conducted more than 100 site investigations throughout his career, authored and co-authored 11 books, more

than 80 chapters, articles, reviews, professional reports, and contributions to reports, and given more than 80 papers at professional meetings. Most recently, he has been involved in the internationally recognized recovery of ancient human DNA from coprolites (dried feces) dating 14,500 years old. He established the contemporaneity of Western Stemmed projectile points at the Paisley Caves with Clovis technology (~13,000 year old), co-authoring six articles in the world's most prestigious scientific journals, *Science and Nature*, made appearances in 11 TV documentaries, and has had his work profiled in more than 50 newspaper and magazine articles, including *Parade* magazine and *The New Yorker*. In retirement, he is completing the Paisley Caves monograph titled *Archaeology and Science at the Paisley Caves*.

Keynote Address

Wednesday, May 15, at TAC Festival Banquet

"Archaeology and Science at the Paisley Caves"

Luther Cressman's 1938-1940 excavations at the Paisley Caves in south central Oregon discovered exciting evidence suggesting that people may have lived there as early as the Late Pleistocene (Ice Age), some 12,000 to 15,000 years ago. However, it was not until more recent developments in radiocarbon dating and ancient DNA analysis that he was proven correct. This presentation explains the scientific processes and results of archaeological and paleogenetic investigations at the Paisley Caves, bringing the audience the most up-to-date information about the evidence for the association of humans and Pleistocene animals in Oregon's high desert country more than 14,000 years ago. Dating of camel and horse bones, artifacts, twigs, and dried human feces containing Native American DNA between 12,900 and 14,500 years ago indicates that people lived in the caves and apparently hunted mammoth or mastodons, camels, horses, and other animals at the end of the Pleistocene (Ice Age) period. This colorful slide show takes the audience through the scientific processes involved in proving the case for pre-Clovis (>13,500 years) human occupations at the world famous Paisley Caves in south-central Oregon.

Video Bar

The Shedd Institute, Cole Gallery, 868 High Street
 Thursday and Friday, May 16-17, 7-10 pm
 Saturday, May 18, 9:30 am - 7 pm
 Sunday, May 19, 10 am - 7 pm
 Free Admission

Producers and distributors from 24 countries submitted 77 films to the juried competition at this year's Festival, but time would allow us to show only 27 of them on the big screen. However, we want you to be able to see any of the entered films, including those not selected for screening, so we've made most of them available for viewing at our special Video Bar in the Cole Gallery, adjacent to the Sheffer Recital Hall at The Shedd Institute. All titles are listed and described in this program on pp. 15-19. This is a free Video Bar, so be our guest—come and enjoy some great films. Make a contribution if you can!

Saturday Social

Capitello Wines, 540 Charnelton Street
 Saturday, 18 May, 7-10 pm
 Free Admission

Hobnob with filmmakers, festival organizers, conference presenters and other festival-goers while enjoying food and drink. This is all free, but we'll give you a chance to make a contribution if you like!

Audience Balloting

You, our audience, have a critically important role to play in this international competition. As you enter the Sheffer Recital Hall at The Shedd for each session, you will receive an Audience Ballot listing the films to be screened during that session. Using that ballot, please score each film that you see in that session on a scale from 0.0 (lowest) to 10.0 (highest). Before you leave the screening room, please drop your ballot into the specially marked Ballot Box outside, or hand it to an usher. We will use your ballot in the process of selecting the Audience Favorite film. The results of the Audience Favorite competition will be announced at the Awards Reception, to be held at Capitello Wines.

Awards Reception

Capitello Wines, 540 Charnelton Street
 Sunday, 19 May, 7-9 pm

Fee: \$5 general admission; Tickets at the door. No pre-registration required.

After all the films have been screened and you have cast your ballots, join us for some finger food and beverages as we compile the results of the competition. When the jury and audience voting tallies are complete, sit back and watch the announcement of the winners. We will show clips of the top films and open sealed envelopes to reveal the final outcome!



Friday-Sunday
July 12-13-14, 2024
oregoncountryfair.org

Our Jury

This international competition depends on our jury, to whom we have entrusted the responsibility of viewing and carefully evaluating each of the 27 films selected for screening. Our jury comprises the following individuals:

Dr. Charles Armitage

State Archaeologist for Nevada

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Dr. Armitage began his archaeological career at the University of Oregon and has served the federal government as an archaeologist for many years.

Fred Crafts

Eugene's Ambassador for the Arts

Mr. Crafts is an arts consultant who was the Fine Arts Editor for the Los Angeles Times and arts editor at the Eugene Register-Guard, among other things. More recently, he is the mastermind and director of the very popular Fred Crafts' Radio Redux, the Eugene-based radio theater troupe.

Mike Dilley

Director, Eugene International Film Festival (EIFF)

Mr. Dilley has a 26 year long career in the movie business, which is still his interest and primary activity. He has been the EIFF Director for 15 years.

Claudia Hemphill Pine

Archaeologist, film critic and script editor in Idaho Falls, Idaho

Currently the chief Script Editor for **The Archaeology Channel** weekly podcast show, the *Audio News from Archaeologica*, Claudia has degrees in both classical archaeology and anthropology. Her archaeological career spans locations from the high Arctic to tropical Central America. Her university teaching has addressed topics including film studies, women in film, science in film, and environment in film.

Bahman Nooraei Beidokht

Mr. Nooraei is a live TV show host and journalist from Tehran. He has been a key figure in the organization of more than 40 international film festivals around Iran in his 13-year career, including the Cinema Verite documentary festival in Tehran. He is a published translator and works with many international organizations and events as a conference interpreter. He also does local and international marketing for Iranian film productions.

The jurors have watched and reviewed each film according to a standardized scoring system that encompasses many categories, including animation and effects, cinematography, inspiration, music, narration, public education value, and script. During their deliberations, concluded prior to the festival events, the jurors worked remotely and were not aware of the identities of Festival sponsors. After the last film screens on Sunday night, May 19, at the Awards Reception (see page 6) we will announce the honors that the jury has conferred on deserving film makers. Jurors will make an award for Best Film overall, as well as for the best film in each category, and have the option to make special mention of films that stand out from the rest in other respects.



**CAFÉ
YUMM!**

Film Summaries for the Big Screen

The following films will be shown in the Sheffer Recital Hall, The Shedd Institute

Ancient Sea Peoples of the North Atlantic

Distributor:

Producer: *T.W. Timreck*

USA

120 minutes

Screening: Saturday, May 18th, 12:30-2:27 PM, Session 4

This film presents a 40 year chronicle of research by Smithsonian scientists, whose work uncovered one of America's most surprising anthropological mysteries: the story of the early ocean-adapted, Native American civilization that once existed along the now submerged Atlantic coastlines of North America, going back to the last Ice Age. The story, offered with a Native American perspective, places this discovery in the context of the world's poorly understood, pre-Neolithic maritime revolution and shows how the oceans and their changing environments have shaped the development of cultures over millennia.

Angkor: The Lost Empire of Cambodia

Distributor: *K2 Studios*

Producer: *David Gross, Murray Pope, Christopher Zaryc*

USA

39 minutes

Screening: Saturday, May 18th, 2:35-3:15 PM, Session 5

At the height of its power between the 9th and 15th centuries AD, Angkor was a resplendent city, considered the most extensive urban complex of the pre-industrial world. However, by the late 16th century, this capital of the Khmer Empire had become derelict, invaded and occupied by the surrounding jungles. The people of Angkor left not a single written word explaining when and why their city-state was abandoned. Come along with us on this big-screen adventure story, unveiling the mysteries behind this urban lost jewel of Cambodia!

Bone Stories

Distributor: *Gabriele Clementi*

Producer: *Gabriele Clementi*

Italy

7 minutes

Screening: Sunday, May 19th, 2:01-2:10 PM, Session 7

Within every bone is a story, the hidden echo of a long past life. Bones bear the traces of the life experience of an individual, of a community, of a people. They help us to reconstruct dramatic events, and even to reveal the face of one of our ancestors. At the University of Siena, in Italy, anthropologist and anatomical illustrator Stefano Ricci Cortili devotes his life to this special kind of archaeological research. The knowledge he has gained has already brought to light many secrets, hidden within bones.

A Bronze Halberd: A Symbol of Civilizational Change

Distributor: *PFS Palfilmstudio Sp.zo.o.*

Producer: *Andrzej Paluszynski*

Poland

70 minutes

Screening: Sunday, May 19th, 11:28-12:42 PM, Session 6

This fictionalized documentary is a reproduction of our imagined past—a journey through the lands of Poland and more widely in Europe about 4,000 years ago. The time in our focus is the transition from the Neolithic Age to the Bronze Age. This period witnessed a rapid technological and civilizational leap, by which the standard and quality of life significantly improved, and the very way in which societies functioned changed. The people at large saw a major enrichment of their lives. Bronze products, which began then to be utilized in everyday life, became an external symbol of social status and wealth. This subject matter, outlined in a fictionalized way, supports the cognitive, informative and educational value of this film. Via its choice of locations, its scenography, 3D animations, and precisely planned frames, this film revivifies a world that has long since vanished.

Diving in Aegean History

Distributor: *Stelios Apostolopoulos*

Producer: *Stelios Apostolopoulos*

Greece

12 minutes

Screening: Sunday, May 19th, 1:00-1:13 PM, Session 7

This film follows the first systematic underwater archaeological survey around Kasos Island in the Aegean Sea. Kasos Island has had a remarkable maritime prominence, from Homeric times through the 20th century. Maritime archaeologist Xanthi Argyris led the team of archaeologists, scientists and technicians. They conducted intensive diving in search of ancient shipwrecks. At the time of this filming, they were just completing a fourth year of their maritime archaeological survey in the area. After surveying 60 km of shoreline, they discovered ten shipwrecks, representing periods from ancient times to the present. After 220 dives and 320 hours spent underwater, 108 selected archaeological finds were recovered. Studying the shipwrecks' locations has added new "tiles" to the already massive mosaic of the Aegean Sea's underwater archaeological expanse.

Diving into History: 50 Years of Exploring Our Maritime Heritage

Distributor:

Producer: *Michael Pitts*

UK

52 minutes

Screening: Saturday, May 18th, 3:34-4:10 PM, Session 4

England—today an island nation-state—has been separated from the European continent by the ocean waters of the English Channel for the last 8,000 years. Seafaring across the English Channel, and via the Irish Sea—to invade, settle, or trade—has ensued for eons, from the Bronze Age all the way through to the 20th Century. And so have shipwrecks, caused by reefs, storms, piracy, and war. Each shipwreck tells a different tale from the long and rich record of British maritime history. In 1973, the British Parliament passed the Protection of Wrecks Act, which enabled the designation of restricted areas around significant shipwrecks to be monitored, researched and presented to the public by a system of volunteer maritime heritage conservationists. By 2023, 57 shipwrecks had received crucial protections under the Act.

Doggerland**Distributor:****Producer:** *Michael Blake*

UK

4 minutes

Screening: Sunday, May 19th, 4:00-4:06 PM, Session 8

This animated film features hand-drawn visualizations accompanied by music and other sound effects, but without any speech sounds. These animated drawings dynamically envision pre-Neolithic tools, weapons—such as big game spears—and other artifacts, as well as pre-Neolithic practices, including big game hunting and its hazards, leading to a dramatic portrayal of a hunter's violent death in a confrontation with his prey and the ensuing burial practices. Add to this the centuries-later rediscovery and display of the skeletal remains of our human ancestors, and of their artifacts, in modern museums.

The Enigma of Keros**Distributor:** *ERT***Producer:** *Michel Dimitrakakos, Kostas Macheras*

Greece

87 minutes

Screening: Sunday, May 19th, 5:13-6:42 PM, Session 8

Archaeological excavations at the site of Dhaskalio, led by Colin Renfrew and Michael Boyd of the McDonald Institute of the University of Cambridge, have completely transformed our understanding of what was previously seen as a Cycladic enigma. The currently uninhabited island of Keros, in the Cyclades Islands of Greece, was the site of the world's earliest known maritime sanctuary, in use during the Early Bronze Age. It was also a thriving center of early metallurgy, including Bronze and other metals production. The site also provides voluminous evidence about major early developments in architecture.

Fall of the Maya Kings**Distributor:** *LGI Media***Producer:** *Leslea Mair*

Canada

52 minutes

Screening: Friday, May 17th, 7:39-8:33 PM, Session 2

One of history's greatest mysteries is that of the Maya, who built great rainforest cities across two millennia and then abruptly abandoned them. New discoveries reconstruct this story. Cave sites tell when the rains stopped and how long droughts lasted. Grave site bone analyses tell what the Maya ate, whence they came and how their lives changed. Lidar penetrates the jungle. CGI reveals Maya achievements like never before, uncovering the skilled geo-engineering that enabled increasingly complex and immense cities. One key find—the KomKom vase—offers the only known Maya writing at the cusp of their collapse. It details wars, dynastic power struggles, and failing governance amid deepening drought, and murder. Cave sites reveal escalating offerings, adult sacrifice and, in final desperation, child sacrifice. This film recounts the Maya collapse as it was written by the Maya themselves.

Finding Enok: Coping with Our Colonial Past**Distributor:** *Cineventura/R. den Drijver***Producer:** *Dorna van Rouveroy*

Netherlands

60 minutes

Screening: Saturday, May 18th, 4:10-5:18 PM, Session 5

In 1911, in the Dutch Indies, Emile van Rouveroy, a young Dutch planter, fathered a daughter with his housekeeper, named Enok, a local Sundanese girl, and then only 15 years of age. He legitimized Enok and raised their daughter, Nelly, in his own, white family. Nelly and her mother never saw each other again. One-hundred-ten years later, two of Emile's grandchildren, Dorna van Rouveroy and Maurice Boyer, search for traces of Enok and of her fellow sufferers and descendants. They focus on what skin color and ethnic origin have meant; what they mean today; what it means to be an "Indo," or partly colored, in modern Indonesia and in Dutch society; and what it means today to descend from a colonial family and to be bi-racial.

Francisco Albo: Greek Seamen in the First Voyage Around the World**Distributor:****Producer:** *Pedro Olalla*

Spain

38 minutes

Screening: Sunday, May 19th, 1:13-1:53 PM, Session 7

Few Greeks—and even few Spaniards—know that Greek sailors served on the ships of the mission of Magellan and Elcano, who 500 years ago attempted the long and turbulent journey that was to become the first known round-the-world voyage. This film is a rigorous documentary, but as told via a fictional vehicle. It contains a dialogue, wherein History interrogates the little-known Greek naval pilot who managed to return to Spain with the only surviving ship of this first circumnavigation, thereby bequeathing to the future, and to humanity's written heritage, the nautical diary from that singular expedition.

Homeland Story**Distributor:** *Ronin Films***Producer:** *Glenda Hambley*

Australia

60 minutes

Screening: Saturday, May 18th, 5:26-6:51 PM, Session 5

Donydji is a small Indigenous homeland in North East Arnhem Land in the far north of Australia. Homelands are situated within the traditional lands of the people who live in them. They are of central importance to those peoples' identity and culture. This film charts the Donydji community's transition from nomadic life to the digital age, starting in the 1960s and all the way to the present day. One family is featured, across three generations, from the traditional elder, Dhulutarama, who still knew how to make stone tools, to his granddaughter, Joanne Yindiri Guyula, who teaches at the Donydji school. This is a moving and representative portrait of one family's struggle to preserve their culture and remain on their homeland despite the severe obstacles they face: sub-standard education, deplorable service delivery, lack of job opportunities for youth, inadequate government policy, bureaucratic mismanagement, and pressure from mining interests.

Continued on pg. 12

Film Screening Schedule

Sheffer Recital Hall at The Shedd Institute, 868 High Street

Admission is free. Just please contribute what you can. All films screened at The Shedd are in the Festival competition. Doors open one hour before each session formally begins. Seating begins one-half hour before each session. In most cases, brief breaks of 8 minutes are provided at the halfway mark of each session. You will find short summaries of the films beginning on page 8.

Thursday, 16 May 2024 (Session 1)

Session 1

7:00-7:10	Introductions
7:10-8:04	<i>Neanderthal: In the Footsteps of Another Humanity</i> (France)
8:04-8:12	Break
8:12-9:43	<i>Incas: The New Story</i> (France)

Friday, 17 May 2024 (Session 2)

Session 2

7:00-7:10	Introductions
7:10-7:39	<i>Odyssea</i> (Belgium)
7:39-8:33	<i>Fall of the Maya Kings</i> (Canada)
8:33-8:41	Break
8:41-9:53	<i>The Time They Spent Here</i> (UK)

Saturday, 18 May 2024 (Sessions 3-5)

Session 3

9:30-9:40	Introductions
9:40-9:57	<i>Sala 5: Raphael's Cartoon Room</i> (Italy)
9:57-10:16	<i>They Never Left</i> (USA)
10:16-11:10	<i>In Search of the Lost Music of Antiquity</i> (France)
11:10-11:18	Break
11:18-12:11	<i>Ocean One K: Archaeologist of the Abyss</i> (France)

12:11-12:30 Intermission

Session 4

12:30-2:27	<i>Ancient Seas Peoples of the North Atlantic</i> (USA)
2:27-2:35	Break
2:35-3:15	<i>Angkor: The Lost Empire of Cambodia</i> (USA)

3:15-3:30 Intermission; Q&A for *Angkor: The Lost Empire of Cambodia* with Dr. Alison Carter

Session 5

3:30-3:34	<i>When the Romans Called Upon Their Gods: Graffiti Dedicated to the God Mercury</i> (France)
3:34-4:10	<i>Diving into History: 50 Years of Exploring Our Maritime Heritage</i> (UK)
4:10-5:18	<i>Finding Enok: Coping with Our Colonial Past</i> (Netherlands)
5:18-5:26	Break
5:26-6:51	<i>Homeland Story</i> (Australia)

Sunday, 19 May 2024 (Sessions 6-8)

Session 6

10:00-10:10	Introductions
10:10-10:27	<i>Notre-Dame de Paris: Preventive Excavation at the Transept Crossing</i> (France)
10:27-11:20	<i>Neanderthal: The First Artist</i> (France)
11:20-11:28	Break
11:28-12:42	<i>A Bronze Halberd: A Symbol of Civilizational Change</i> (Poland)

12:42-1:00 Intermission

Session 7

1:00-1:13	<i>Diving in the Aegean History</i> (Greece)
1:13-1:53	<i>Francisco Albo: Greek Seamen in the First Voyage around the World</i> (Spain)
1:53-2:01	Break
2:01-2:10	<i>Bone Stories</i> (Italy)
2:10-3:41	<i>Wonder of Andalusia: Medina Azahara</i> (France)

3:41-4:00 Intermission

Session 8

4:00-4:06	<i>Doggerland</i> (UK)
4:06-4:22	<i>The Soul of a Man</i> (Italy)
4:22-4:43	<i>Shoals and Shipwrecks of Port Royal Sound</i> (USA)
4:43-5:05	<i>Old Drystones: First Farmers of the Mountains</i> (France)
5:05-5:13	Break
5:13-6:42	<i>The Enigma of Keros</i> (Greece)



Film Summaries for the Big Screen (continued)

In Search of the Lost Music of Antiquity**Distributor:** *Arte Distribution***Producer:** *Olivier de Bannes*

France

53 minutes

Screening: Saturday May 18th, 10:16-11:10 AM, Session 3

This film recounts the unexpected discovery—in the ancient Egyptian-Greek papyrus archives of the Louvre Museum—and the arduous decipherment, of a very ancient musical score. It invites us to follow the work on this ancient score by scientists, including by “music archaeologists” who are passionate about the sound worlds of ancient humanity. Abundant visual evidence—painted, sculpted, and carved into stone—of the importance of music in ancient civilizations exists. Even some of their ancient musical instruments have survived into our present day. But recovery of the sounds of this music is another matter. From Delphi to Pompeii, from Egyptian temples to the newest technically advanced laboratories, new discoveries are bringing back to life elements of the musical soundscapes of antiquity, otherwise lost forever.

Incas: The New Story**Distributor:** *ARTE Distribution***Producer:** *Christie & Agnès Molia*

France

90 minutes

Screening: Thursday, May 16th, 8:12-9:43 PM, Session 1

They were the masters of the Andes. They were the masters of the Pacific coasts of the South American continent. They created the first social superpower of the Americas. Their ancient name is still well known to us today: the Incas. Yet this remarkable civilization apparently never had a writing system. Their history has therefore been reported only by their enemies, the Spanish conquistadors who violently invaded their empire starting in 1532. However, for the last 15 years, thanks to new, advanced-technological tools and proliferating research programs, a new story of the Inca Empire has arisen, revealing new aspects, either unknown or badly understood, until now. What is the real story of the Incas, this legendary people? All over their ancient empire, scientists are gathering new clues by which to reconstruct the answers to this question.

The Neanderthal: First Artist**Distributor:** *ZED***Producer:** *Tournez, S'il Vous Plait*

France

51 minutes

Screening: Sunday, May 19th, 10:27-11:20 PM, Session 6

Ancient cave art was born, we used to believe, around 30,000 years ago, from the spirit and from the hands of our direct ancestor-humans: *Homo sapiens*. But in Touraine, France, a recent discovery could shake that belief. Deep in an obscure cave, La Roche Cotard, prehistorians have identified surprising engravings. To what age do these very singular drawings belong? Are they ancient works of our direct ancestors? Or could they have been crafted by a more ancient human variant: *Homo sapiens neanderthalensis*? These mysterious drawings may revamp what we thought we knew about the origins of art.

Neanderthal: In the Footsteps of Another Humanity**Distributor:** *Dieterle Marie Estelle***Producer:** *Caroline Chassaing*

France

52 minutes

Screening: Thursday, May 16th, 7:10-8:04 PM, Session 1

Threatened by marine erosion, the site of Le Rozel delivers rare vestiges of the daily life of Neanderthal populations who occupied this remarkable point of the Normandy coastline around 80,000 years ago. Among these fragile remains, more than 2000 footprints have been discovered: the largest collection of Neanderthal footprints in the world! Since 2012, archaeologist Dominique Cliquet has raced against the clock to excavate this site of international importance before the raging sea swallows up forever the traces of life left in the dunes by the Neanderthal men, women and children who frequented it. Via research conducted in recent years throughout Europe and beyond, still-unpublished archaeological investigation results take us on a dizzying journey through time, in the footsteps of another humanity: Neanderthal humanity. Little by little, archaeology is allowing us to glimpse the humanity of this disappeared species, so different from, and yet so close to, our own!

Notre-Dame de Paris: Preventive Excavation at the Transept Crossing**Distributor:** *Inrap***Producer:** *Inrap, Thibaud Marchand, Nadia Cleitman*

France

15 minutes

Screening: Sunday, May 19th, 10:10-10:27 AM, Session 6

The day after the Notre-Dame fire of April 15, 2019, archaeologists were called to the cathedral. Three years later, an excavation, conducted by the French National Institute of Preventive Archaeological Research, yielded important data on the construction and evolution of the cathedral, as well as on burials and findings of numerous other elements. Among these is the medieval rood screen, separating the chancel from the nave and destroyed in the reign of Louis XIV, but found nonetheless in an exceptional state of preservation. With Dorothée Chaoui-Derieux, conservator-in-chief; Christophe Besnier, lead archaeologist for the Institute; Philippe Villeneuve, chief architect; and Philippe Jost, director of restoration Notre-Dame; we learn about key results of this historic restoration project.

Ocean One K: Archaeologist of the Abyss**Distributor:** *Côme VILLAIN / TERRANOÀ***Producer:** *Gedeon Programmes*

France

51 minutes

Screening: Saturday May 18th, 11:18-12:11 PM, Session 3

For archaeologists, the largest “museum” in the world is located underwater. But exploring shipwrecks is a huge challenge: in many cases, diving to the great depths needed to excavate is impossible. A new era in the archaeological conquest of the abyss has begun with Ocean One K. That is a humanoid archaeologist-robot, capable of exploring these otherwise inaccessible depths and of carrying out excavations according to the rules of the profession. A true adventure film, “OCEAN ONE K: Archaeologist of the Abyss,” is the story of an incredible scientific and human adventure.

Odyssea**Distributor:** *Jean Penet***Producer:** *Valentin Soulet**Belgium*

27 minutes

Screening: Friday, May 17th, 7:10-7:39 PM, Session 2

This film recounts the vast story of our social and cultural evolution, from the Paleolithic period in the continent of Africa, and beyond, to the end of the Western Roman Empire. This panoramic film details the successive revolutions in humanity's material culture. This story begins with the innovations of Paleolithic modern humans, nomadic, prey-following hunter-gatherers, whose advances in tool-making and other arts set them apart from other hominids and enabled their expansion worldwide. That is followed by the Neolithic renaissance in tool innovation and plant and animal domestication and its spread from the Middle East into Europe. The story continues with the Bronze Age's revolution in metallurgy and beyond, which turned small Neolithic villages into city-states and then led on to the multi-city-state empires of the ancient Mediterranean world.

Old Drystones: First Farmers of the Mountains**Distributor:** *Rob Hope***Producer:** *Rob Hope*

France

21 minutes

Screening: Sunday, May 19th, 4:43-5:05 PM, Session 8

In the French Alps, around Mount Pilat, filmmaker Rob Hope explores little known Neolithic archaeological remains from up to 4,000 years ago. He holds up in a stone cabin that is open to all trekkers in those parts and follows the traces of long-past human life all around the area. He notes a mysterious large-scale system of drystone walls, mounds and cairns, whose builders and exact time of building remain unsolved. Tracing this ancient and forgotten drystone wall system across the high mountainous area, he finds a mountain top Iron Age stone fort amid mixtures of the remains of later periods, including Roman and Medieval architectural ruins. As he journeys deeper into these remote and wild places still remaining there today, he also delves deeper into a distant human past.

Sala 5: Raphael's Cartoon Room**Distributor:** *Premiere Film***Producer:** *The Blink Fish, Paolo Soravia**Italy*

15 minutes

Screening: Saturday, May 18th, 9:40-9:57 AM, Session 3

The Pinacoteca Ambrosiana is one of the world's oldest and most renowned museums. It rises just steps from the historic city center of Milan and guards treasures of inestimable cultural heritage and artistic value. When you enter, you find works of Leonardo, Titian and other Renaissance masters. You also find the imposing ROOM 5, the focus of this film. ROOM 5 houses one of the great art masterpieces of all time: the "Carton of Raphael," preparatory drawing for The School of Athens by Raffaello Sanzio, the famous fresco now at the Vatican. This film tells of the refurbishment of ROOM 5, planned by Stefano Boeri Architetti and implemented by personnel who exemplify the highest excellence in technique and quality of workmanship in this restorative field. The goal: to maximize the aesthetic experience of this gigantic preparatory work of art, created entirely by hand by Raphael.

Shoals and Shipwrecks of Port Royal Sound**Distributor:****Producer:** *James Spirek**USA*

19 minutes

Screening: Sunday, May 19th, 4:22-4:43 PM, Session 8

This film documents historical research and archaeological explorations for shipwrecks at the entrance of Port Royal Sound, South Carolina, USA. By presenting field activities and interviews, the film records the process of searching for shipwrecks, accomplished by means of historical research, remote-sensing operations and diving. These innovative research efforts benefitted from support of the Office of Exploration of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, via a research award to the Maritime Research Division of the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of South Carolina.

The Soul of a Man**Distributor:** *Premiere Film***Producer:** *Fachiro Amedeo Palazzini**Italy*

19 minutes

Screening: Sunday, May 19th, 4:06-4:22 PM, Session 8

In this experimental film, a young woman sits at a coffee table. She has arrived from far away to visit the city of Sabbioneta, the ideal city of Vespasiano Gonzaga's Italian Renaissance. She feels that someone she cannot see is watching her. Uncomfortable with that feeling, she decides to move away from the cafe. Then she walks across the public square and enters the historic Ducal Palace. As she walks, she tightly grasps a book by Borges in her hand and, in a strange sense of *deja-vu*, the man who is chasing her fails to catch up with her.

They Never Left: Indigenous Reclamation and Return in the Southeast**Distributor:****Producer:** *Michele Forman**USA*

17 minutes

Screening: Saturday, May 18th, 9:57-10:16 AM, Session 3

"We are our ancestor's wildest dreams, and we are still here." Some Indigenous people were never forced to leave what is now known as the State of Alabama. Many others, located all across the North American continent, are still, despite their geographical distances, intimately connected to their sacred ancestral homelands. In this film, you will meet three Indigenous people who are answering their ancestor's prayers to reclaim traditional lifeways, to protect the environment and to teach us all how to better our relationships with the natural world and with Indigenous people.

The Time They Spent Here**Distributor:****Producer:** *Edward Owles, Richard Tacon*

This film surveys the truly stunning rock art still visible in Sweden, carved by Neolithic artists beginning around 4,000 years ago. The vast number of these rock art sites is threatened with accelerating erasure by weathering. This film describes the ongoing efforts to preserve this artistic heritage by techniques ranging from rubbings on paper to digital reconstruction. Laser recording even captures the detailed and microscopic depth of field of these engravings, and, by repeated re-scanning over time, tracks their erosion from weathering. Why did these ancient Neolithic people make these elaborate, ornate rock carvings? A lot of information lies hidden in the rock art images, but we still lack the key to decrypt it.

UK

10 minutes

Screening: Friday May 17th, 8:41-9:53 PM, Session 2**When the Romans Called Upon Their Gods: Graffiti Dedicated to the God Mercury****Distributor:** *La Casquette Productions***Producer:** *Mathieu Lesueur*

In the western Alps, the present-day city of Châteauneuf in Savoy includes remains of an ancient district, dedicated to a cult of spiritual practices, with baths, a theater and a temple. Built in the 1st century AD under the auspices of a Roman emperor, it contains sacred rooms, including cellae reserved for its priests, and a covered gallery, wherein the faithful could gather. In its center, an inscription on a plaque indicates that this sanctuary was in honor of the Gallic god Limetus, a parallel to the Roman god Mercury, protector of travelers and good health. Wishes, offerings and thanks were addressed to Limetus, including 70 surviving graffiti. Some of them mention Maia, a female consort of Mercury. Some are veritable historical accounts, of otherwise unknown events in which congregants appealed to Limetus.

France

3 minutes

Screening: Saturday, May 18th 3:30-3:34 PM, Session 5**Wonder of Andalusia: Medina Azahara****Distributor:** *Mediawan***Producer:** *Amélie Juan*

Medina Azahara, in Spain's Sierra Morena mountains, was given its Arabic name, which means "The Shining City," by the 10th century caliph who had it built. Nicknamed the "Versailles of al-Andalus," it is considered one of the most important Islamic archaeological sites worldwide. Five years ago, a team of European archaeologists began a new excavation project at this World Heritage site. For over 100 years, excavations here have concentrated inside the Caliph's palace. This new excavation project is focused outside the palace walls, in areas of the city never before studied. A massive new building came to light, its function unknown. Beyond the mystery of this building, the very location of this city is an enigma in itself. Why was a Muslim city of such importance built in a then primarily Christian area, far from most of Al Andalusia, then the name for Muslim Spain?

France

60 minutes

Screening: Sunday, May 19th, 2:10-3:41 PM, Session 7

The Confederated Tribes of
the Grand Ronde Community
of Oregon



Celebrating 41 Years of
Restoration



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Films at the Video Bar

The following films were submitted as entries to TAC Festival 2024 and are available for viewing only in our Video Bar (see page 6)

3 Weeks Ago

Distributor: Amir Hossein Dibaj

Iran

Producer:

15 minutes

Three weeks before the birth of their child, Fereshteh and Ibrahim receive life-changing news. Out of fear, they are forced to make a difficult decision.

The Address on the Wall

Distributor: Asaf Yechezkel

Ukraine

Producer: Nachum Slutzker, Serge Krutsenko, Olena Malikova, Dmytro Malikov

60 minutes

This film explores the Babyn Yar Massacre in connection to the recent invasion of Ukraine, a tragedy which has altered the lives of many Europeans and destroyed the romantic imaginations of humanity in the 21st century. This film is a reflection on the past and, at the same time, evidence of what is happening now.

The Battle of Lake George

Distributor:

USA

Producer: Kouropoulos Media Group, LLC

30 minutes

As French and Canadian Forces threatened British expansion in America, the British ordered William Johnson to form an army. As they marched to eradicate the French garrison at Crown Point, they would engage the French forces at the Battle of Lake George.

The Beach of Beings

Distributor: Le Fresnoy – Studio national

France

Producer: Le Fresnoy – Studio national

20 minutes

A paleontologist mourning a loved one explores preservation, discovery and loss as her team digitizes the traces of an unidentified creature.

Bili Kat: In My Own Language

Distributor: John Nelson

Honduras

Producer: John Nelson

7 minutes

This short film tells the story of an indigenous boy in Honduras named Yüi who loves his Miskito language and culture. He talks about how important it is to learn in his own language and emphasizes the value that this represents.

Caverns of the Dominican Republic

Distributor: Indiana University Center for Underwater Science

USA

Producer: Wyatt Fritz

14 minutes

For over 25 years, Indiana University's Center for Underwater Science has partnered with the Dominican Republic's Ministries of Culture and Environment, working to document the use of submerged caverns by Indigenous peoples in pre-colonial times.

Denim Gold: How the Kam People of China Preserved Indigo Dyeing

Distributor: Marie Anna Lee

USA

Producer: Marie Anna Lee

29 minutes

Secluded in the mountains of southwest China, the Indigenous people known as the Kam have guarded the ancient technology of indigo dyeing. When the young generation lost interest in the traditions, the elderly artisans decided to reveal their knowledge. An art professor and her students study under the oldest generation to learn the process.

Dreamy Fragrance of Spring Blossoms

Distributor: Amirhosein Saqafi

Iran

Producer: IYCS – Iranian Youth Cinema Society, Hera Khanmirzaei

13 minutes

A family experiences loss as war takes the son, the heart of his family.

The Father of Indian Prehistory

Distributor: Ramesh Yanthra

India

Producer: Ramesh Yanthra

26 minutes

Although Robert Bruce Foote was not an Indian, his hard work made him "The Father of Indian Prehistory." His work as an archaeologist and geologist uncovered numerous prehistoric Paleolithic sites and antiquities in India.

Flora

Distributor:

USA

Producer: Yehuda Sharim

81 minutes

A collective memoir interweaving the stories of visionaries and warriors learning to love in a world dominated by unnecessary suffering.

Furthest Frontier II: Stories from Southern Fiordland

Distributor: Toitu Otago Settlers Museum

New Zealand

Producer: Toitu Otago Settlers Museum

20 minutes

An expedition of Iwi and heritage professionals ventures into New Zealand's wild Fiordland region to bring stories of the past into the present.

The Future of Breath**Distributor:****Producer:** Anthony Grieco

An Android explores a future desert landscape and discovers curious cultural artifacts that reveal the sounds and rhythms of a past civilization.

Canada

4 minutes

Gags**Distributor:** Michael Fantauzzi Film**Producer:** Michael Anthony Fantauzzi

As the only spectator, in an otherwise deserted hall, a boy reluctantly sits to watch a film. Why does he watch this interminable series of gags unfold? The film stops abruptly due to an unexpected technical failure. The boy comes out disconcerted, unconvinced, distracted, a little bewildered. But waiting for him is a surprising twist. A paradoxical short circuit. A nemesis? Gags, indeed.

Italy

12 minutes

The Gallic Art of Trémuson Enters the Museum**Distributor:** INRAP**Producer:** Sirine Boussif

The four statuettes and the bucket discovered at Trémuson (Côtes-d'Armor) in 2019 are presented to the public for the first time during the "Celtic" exhibition at the Musée de Bretagne.

France

7 minutes

Game Over**Distributor:** saeed mayahy**Producer:** saeed mayahy

In an Istanbul basement, a group of illegal Afghan teenage boys are determined to smuggle themselves into Europe. Caught in the no-man's-land between childhood and adulthood, incredible strength and vulnerability bond them together. They are willing to jeopardize everything with safety and freedom as the ultimate destiny. But at what cost?

Turkey

28 minutes

Harat al-Bilad: Manah**Distributor:** Monika Koeck**Producer:** Monika Koeck

Brought to an ancient settlement of Oman, audiences are introduced to the complex system of interrelationships between material culture and tribal social history. Drawing on architectural and ethnographic documentation, this bilingual, English/Arabic, film highlights the history of Oman's medieval trade links and the importance of urban, architectural and artistic development. This film celebrates Oman's unique history while enhancing knowledge and support towards cultural tourism ambitions.

UK

11 minutes

The Heart of Heritage**Distributor:** Iota Distribution**Producer:** Natacha Hostyn

At the heart of Belgium's Royal Institute for Artistic Heritage (IRPA), a team of passionate people work to safeguard Belgian heritage. Through conservation and restoration of paintings, sculptures, fragile objects, and religious buildings, a rare and precious temporality is revealed.

Belgium

48 minutes

HEMA: A Story of Castellieri**Distributor:****Producer:** Argo Medi @ Story

Before the foundation of Trieste, the lands of Caput Adriae were inhabited by the population of the Castellieri. Focusing on a young girl named Hema, this film takes place in the Iron Age. She becomes attached to a small animal that visits her occasionally. The present day sees another little girl similar to Hema. For the first time, a film discusses rituals and culture of the Castellieri people.

Italy

68 minutes

The Hidden Bridges**Distributor:** Nima Hassan beigi**Producer:** Nima hassan beigi

In this first-person travelogue documentary, comparisons are drawn between two types of ancient storytelling in Iran and China. It explores Eastern rituals and traditional plays with instruments and singing.

Iran

20 minutes

In the Village of Poets**Distributor:****Producer:** Michael J.K. Walsh

Cultural heritage in conflict territories often falls victim to the effects of embedded political, ideological and religious divisions. In Kafzani, Ozanköy, on the Pentadaktylos foothills of Cyprus, the small Venetian-era church of Panagia tou Potamou bears testimony to the achievements of local community members joining together to protect their village heritage.

UK

20 minutes

Intangible Cultural Heritage: Syrians in the UK**Distributor:** Monika Koeck**Producer:** Monika Koeck

The massive displacement of Syrians threatens the eradication of tradition, memories and values. Centered on Syrians currently residing in the UK, this film explores how intangible cultural heritage could inform reshaping cities and towns in post-conflict Syria.

UK

45 minutes

Iphigenia: Book of Change**Distributor:** MiShinnah Productions**Producer:** Elise Kermani

USA

50 minutes

In a unique narrative inspired by the Greek figure, Iphigenia, a compilation of stories of women who have escaped and survived captivity is told through puppetry, dance, art, and music.

Japanese Buddhism**Distributor:** Yellow Sheep Films**Producer:** Kazuya Ashizawa

Japan

60 minutes

For more than 1,500 years, Japanese Buddhism has been the spiritual center for the Japanese people. This film explores how religious context can be the key to understanding behavioral characteristics prevalent in a social group.

Jurassic Cash**Distributor:** Terranoa**Producer:** Marie Mouchet

France

54 minutes

Xavier Lefebvre and his team follow the journey of Big John, the world's largest triceratops, who sold for 6.6 million euros at a 2021 auction in Paris. Following the dinosaur from initial discovery in the United States to restoration in Italy and finally arrival in Paris, this documentary explores the ethics of the paleontological collection world.

Knowledge is Sung and Danced**Distributor:** José Alejandro López Pérez**Producer:** José Alejandro López Pérez

Colombia

51 minutes

Living in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta in Colombia, the indigenous Arhuaco (Iku) people's traditions, values and beliefs are recounted, which emphasize their traditional dance called "chicote."

Like Lightning into Water: The San Casciano dei Bagni Bronzes**Distributor:** RAI COM**Producer:** Sabrina Destito

Italy

57 minutes

For over seven centuries, the sacred site of San Casciano dei Bagni served as a place of pilgrimage and a symbol of tranquility. Recent discoveries of over 200 bronze artifacts and 5,000 coins shed light on the past and offer evidence of harmonious coexistence between the Etruscans and the Romans.

Living Kultur**Distributor:** En Buen Sitio Producciones**Producer:** En Buen Sitio Producciones

Spain

65 minutes

An imagined performance where dantzaris, artisans or dragons are protagonists of a common story as if it were a Puccini opera, materializing the immaterial Navarra.

Looking into the Hellenistic Pergamon**Distributor:** Serdar Yilmaz**Producer:** Serdar Yilmaz and Ufuk Soyöz

Turkey

5 minutes

A documentary about Pergamon, one of the first emerging kingdoms of the Hellenistic world. The Attalid rulers designed the city around the religious rituals which were re-fashioned in the Hellenistic Age to accommodate rituals of kingship.

Lost and Hungry in the Amazon: A Yanomami Story**Distributor:** Cliff Orloff**Producer:** Cliff Orloff

USA

50 minutes

Ten thousand years ago we were all hunter-gatherers. Now, the Yanomami Indians are the last large group of semi-nomadic hunter-gatherers remaining on earth.

Loving in the Wave of Awakening: Why are we here?**Distributor:** Egeria Study Center Association**Producer:** Ruben Giuseppe Barbera

Italy

66 minutes

This documentary is a beautiful symphony for the soul, a profound reflection on human existence in all of its bio-psycho-spiritual aspects. A two-sided debate divides thirty experts between the scientific and existential-philosophical approach to discuss the fundamental themes of birth, life, death, and eternity.

Mahlagha**Distributor:** Documentary and Experimental Film Center**Producer:** Maryam Jamali

Iran

19 minutes

Megaliths: The 5,500 year old story**Distributor:** PFS PalFilmStudio, Krzysztof Paluszyński**Producer:** Krzysztof Henryk Paluszyński, PFS PalFilmStudio

Poland

66 minutes

Megaliths are the greatest mystery connected with the peoples of the Funnel Beaker Culture. Other artifacts associated with this group allow for a new understanding of the complexities culminating in lives utilizing tools, agriculture, transportation, and art.

Men and Gods: The Seas and the Sacred**Distributor:** A.S.S.O. non-profit organization**Producer:** A.S.S.O. non-profit organization

The caves on the islet of Sant'Eufemia hold a thousand-year-old secret: more than 200 rock inscriptions that tell forgotten stories. A precious heritage spanning Roman times to the contemporary age offers a fascinating glimpse into the lives of sailors who plied the dangerous waters of the Adriatic. This is an extraordinary find that reveals a fragment of human history and also invites us to reflect on the deep connection man has always had with the sea and its deities.

Italy

42 minutes

Missing Footsteps**Distributor:** Daniel Sousa**Producer:** Daniel Sousa

An icon of Portugal culture, Portuguese cobblestones are one of the biggest symbols of engineering pride and a stone in the shoe of urban mobility.

Portugal

10 minutes

Mystic Maya: Journey of Initiation**Distributor:** Crestone Films**Producer:** Douglas Kip Beechwood

Step into a hidden realm beyond the pyramids as this captivating documentary unravels the truth about these enigmatic structures, intertwining the sacred initiation rites of the Maya, Egypt and modern Western Esoteric Mystery schools. Prepare for a mesmerizing journey that challenges your perception of history and illuminates profound connections between diverse esoteric traditions.

USA

74 minutes

Nihalgai**Distributor:****Producer:** Colten Ashley

An experimental retelling of a part of the Navajo Creation Story.

USA

5 minutes

The Nomadic Horse Rider**Distributor:** Self-Distributed**Producer:** Karina Iwe

This animated film was created as part of the exhibition "Chic!" at Germany's State Museum of Archaeology Chemnitz. Told in an engaging and vivid way, this story provides information on the 2,000 year old ice mummy from southern Siberia.

Germany

4 minutes

Old Strings and the Threads of Fate**Distributor:** Fábíán Andor**Producer:** Fábíán Andor

Sándor Czári from Moráreni is considered to be the last dulcimer player from Harghita County. This film explores the techniques and ethnographic aspects related to the dulcimer instrument, an instrument neglected by folk ensembles today.

Romania

41 minutes

Overlooked: Lost in the Shining Hotel**Distributor:** Truthstream Media**Producer:** Aaron Dykes

It seems that a few things were left behind in Room 237... a multi-part analysis of Stanley Kubrick's classic horror film that explores the sub-text hiding on the edge of the frame and around every corner, revealing a narrative yet to be told.

USA

102 minutes

Quest for Midas**Distributor:** Kadim KOÇ**Producer:** Kadim KOÇ

Working to uncover the capital of Phrygia, the realm of legendary King Midas, the excavation team led by Dr. Brian Rose opens the curtains of the ages with the consciousness and enthusiasm of writing history. The documentary focuses on Dr. Rose and his infectious passion for archaeology.

Turkey

20 minutes

Regnum Fest**Distributor:** Mestellér János**Producer:** Bálint Vágó

A reporter is filmed while visiting various prominent reenactor groups and reviews their work. These groups are involved in recreating the ways of life, and especially the ways of warfare, that held sway during the tenth to thirteenth centuries in Medieval Europe. The reporter interviews leaders of these groups regarding their activities, their methods and their techniques in reanimating past life-ways for their living history presentations.

Hungary

73 minutes

Reminiscence of Gangaur**Distributor:****Producer:** Sudeep Sohni

In central India, the village of Kalamukhi celebrates Gangaur, a folk festival that has been around for over 100 years. The documentary captures the relationship between soil and crops in relation to the traditions and rituals woven into this celebration of innocence and gratitude within the ethnic culture of rural India.

India

29 minutes

Roundels: The 7,000-Year-Old Mystery**Distributor:** PFS Palfilmstudio sp.zo.o.**Producer:** Andrzej Janusz Paluszyński,

This fictionalized documentary explores the spectacular and practically unknown ancient past of the lands of today's Poland. Go back almost 7,000 years ago to discover roundels, the oldest examples of monumental architecture in Europe. These circular wooden-earth structures reflect the formation of a new social order in Central Europe after the collapse of the first farmers in the early 5th millennium BC.

Poland

54 minutes

The Scream of the Fox in the Cold Night**Distributor:** LX Filmes**Producer:** Rui Pedro, Lamy and Luís Pires Correia

This is an ancient memory materialized by a group of young men who return every year to their home village at Christmas time. They reply to an ancient call and together make tradition happen again.

Portugal

65 minutes

Sikat Subar: A Hidden Colorful Feather**Distributor:** Filmesdamente**Producer:** Diogo Pessoa de Andrade, Lurdes Pires and Victor Santos

In a land where history has forged a spirit of resilience and freedom, Timor-Leste, "Sikat Subar" takes you on an immersive journey into the heart of a captivating yet controversial tradition: cockfighting. Going beyond the spectacle of the arena, this documentary unveils the intricate web of culture, economy and morality surrounding this age-old practice.

Portugal

95 minutes

Smoke**Distributor:** José Miguel Pires**Producer:** José Miguel Pires

This is a contemplative work of immensity, silence and stillness. It conveys the poetry of local authors through the voice of inhabitants of the parish of Cardanha (Torre de Moncorvo, Portugal), evoking the relationship between culture and landscape. The past is present in all elements of these places, resisting the passage of time with a greatness diluted in the fragility of memory preserved in the voices and hands of those who remain.

Portugal

17 minutes

The Steak**Distributor:** Kiarash Dadgar**Producer:** Kiarash Dadgar

A birthday ceremony preparation gets upside down as something horrible takes place.

Iran

8 minutes

St. Luke's: The Little Church That Could**Distributor:** Newhook Productions**Producer:** Peter Buckle and Keith Bonnell

Amidst a mostly Catholic community, a small tiny Anglican church offers more to the community of Placentia than people may think, maintaining history and connections to the rest of the world.

Canada

13 minutes

Totem & Ore**Distributor:** Ronin Films**Producer:** John Mandelberg

This film explores the effects of nuclear bombs and weapons testing across the globe. Historic tragedies are re-visited with stories from filmmakers, artists, actors, scholars, and doctors sharing cases of Indigenous community resilience.

Australia

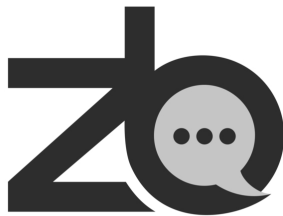
98 minutes

Tree Crown: Krošnja**Distributor:** Predrag Todorovic**Producer:** Predrag Todorovic

Without any narrative in sandstone and wretched landmarks, the people of western Serbia seem to have never existed. Only posthumous evidence for their lives as artists, poets, philosophers, and craftsmen lives on.

Serbia

15 minutes



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About *The Archaeology Channel*



The Archaeology Channel (<https://www.archaeologychannel.org>) is a streaming-media Web site introduced in 1999 by nonprofit Archaeological Legacy Institute (ALI) as its first and principal project. Its purpose is to tell the human story to people everywhere through digital media and cutting-edge technology. In a very real sense, we have combined the best of the old with the best of the new, because in our view, we human beings need to reflect on our past as we plan for a better future.

Using streaming-media technology, visitors to TAC from anywhere can experience our video and audio content on demand, at any time. We launched video programming in 2000 and audio in 2001. Our customized player delivers programming to all media devices in use today. TAC is mobile-friendly.

TAC is one of the top archaeology-related websites. Annual traffic averages over 100,000 page views. Our content has grown to hundreds of streaming videos and a monthly half-hour cable TV-show called *Strata: Portraits of Humanity*, bringing you video portraits building on the many layers of the human experience, delivered on TAC, on a growing network of dozens of cable TV stations across the US and even in Europe. TAC carries a long list of audio programs, including our weekly *Audio News from Archaeologica* podcast (with more than 200,000 monthly listeners), commentaries, interviews, indigenous stories, and *The Human Experience* program series. ALI reaches out through a long list of social media platforms, including our YouTube channel with nearly 3000 subscribers. We have an active and growing film production program. Our audience is very diverse, including educators, students and adventuresome, imaginative people of all ages. We have even branched out to cultural heritage tours (see archaeologychannel.org/tours), featuring archaeological sites in Denmark, Britain, Ireland, Iran, Malta, Peru, and the Yucatan. In 2021 we launched our subscription video-on-demand platform, *Heritage Broadcasting Service* (heritagetac.org), featuring a growing list of hundreds of premium titles on cultural heritage topics, including our *Strata* show.

Because ALI is a tax-exempt nonprofit, our business model is similar to that of public broadcasting organizations like PBS, NPR and KLCC. We rely heavily on our Membership Program. You can help assure the continued growth and success of **The Archaeology Channel** and our other initiatives by becoming a TAC Member. Please go to archaeologychannel.org/donate (or send a check to TAC Membership, PO Box 5302, Eugene, OR 97405) to make your contribution. To make a contribution by credit card, please call us at 541-345-5538. The amounts listed below are suggestions only—we accept any amount. *Thanks very much!*

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