



GUEST SPEAKER:
Peter Whittaker

Co-owner of Rainier Mountaineering, Inc. (RMI), the largest guide service in the U.S., Peter has been a mountain guide for more than 25 years. Born into what could rightfully be called the First Family of American mountaineering, Peter has more than held his own outfitting and guiding over 70 expeditions on all seven continents. In 1995, he organized Expedition Inspiration and led a group of breast-cancer survivors to the summit of Aconcagua, raising \$2.3 million for breast-cancer research. He has hosted Trailside, an Emmy-nominated adventure TV series on public television. And he continues to lead trips all over the world.



History Making Watermelon Farmer
Matt Morris
2009 USA / Food / 7 min
Trailer: [Available online](#)

Vern Switzer is an idiosyncratic character: A black farmer in Rural Hall, North Carolina, his passion for growing watermelon found new meaning when God directed him to write children's books. Now this "farming author on the move" brings his message of sustainable farming and character building to schools across the country. Director Matt Morris (Pickin' and Trimmin', Mountainfilm 2008) was inspired by this year's food theme to create this film to premiere at Mountainfilm. (EL)

2009/2010 MOUNTAINFILM ON TOUR PLAYLISTS
Friday, October 9th, 2009



Spray: Window of Opportunity
Brian Solano
2008 USA / Adventure / 15 min
Trailer: Not available

Spray is a portrait of a young climber and his relationship with the rugged, dramatic coast of Northern California. Chris Lindner is 23 years old, a super-strong climber who has spent his lifetime on rock. Where he finds solace is on the coast, where the great Pacific crashes into land, where the air is thick with sea-spray and the energy of movement, where being exposed to something so huge makes his small problems dissolve. This short film follows Chris as he explores the coast, climbing difficult boulders with amazing fluidity and strength, before finding his holy grail: a tall and incredibly steep prow-shaped rock that juts out over the ocean. And with the waves crashing far below and the gulls soaring overhead, Chris takes on one of the most dynamic and challenging projects he's ever done. (KK)



Via Bearzi
Jeff Alzner
2007 USA / Adventure / 33 min
Trailer: [Available online](#)

Via Bearzi portrays the simple essence of two-man alpine climbing. In 2002, Michael Bearzi began filming his attempt of a first ascent up a new route on Gyachung Kang. When he didn't return from Tibet, friends Jeff Alzner and Brook Kirkin embarked upon what became a more-than-five-year project to complete his film. The result is an endearing tribute to pure mountaineering. (EL)



The Red Helmet
Tyler Young
2008 USA / Adventure | 6 min
Trailer: Not available

In a dark and drab world, a fearful young child discovers a bright red helmet that transforms everything. (EL)



I Matter: One Kid's Fight Against Global Warming
Lynne Cherry
2008 USA / Environment & Activism / 4 min
Trailer: Not available

If most adults had the awareness and tenacity of Alec Looz, we'd be making more progress to mitigate climate change. This XX-year-old activist is galvanizing kids across the country to reduce their carbon footprints. (DH)



Revolution One
Dan Heaton
2009 USA / Adventure / 10 min
Trailer: Not available

Cliff edges, boulders, logs, park benches, public sculpture, handrails, picnic tables, walls and window sills—all are apparently perfect terrain for extreme unicycling. Kris Holm returns with more one-wheel wonders and this radical new film. (PK)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10th, 2009 FILM LIST



GUEST SPEAKER:
Jim Whittaker

Jim Whittaker was the first American to reach the summit of Mount Everest. He summited on May 1, 1963 with the Sherpa Nawang Gombu (a nephew of Tenzing Norgay). They ran out of oxygen but managed to reach the summit. Once there, Whittaker planted a US flag at the top.

He led the 1990 Everest Peace Climb that brought together climbers from the United States, USSR and China. In addition to putting more than a dozen climbers on the summit, the expedition hauled off a large amount of trash left on the mountain by previous expeditions.



Look to the Ground
Bjorn Enga
2009 Canada / Adventure / 6 min
Trailer: Not available

Imagine riding your mountain bike at full speed down a steep serpentine trail at night when the moon is a dim sliver that slips in and out of clouds, its vague light often lost in shadow. And now imagine that you're wearing shades. Just such a scenario describes much of Bobby McMullen's life: He is a blind mountain biker. Look to the Ground is his story. (PK)



Drift: Bahamas
Chris Patterson
2008 USA / Adventure / 15 min
Trailer: [Available online](#)

After 50 years as a guide, Bonefish Charlie Smith has become synonymous with bonefish fishing in the Bahamas. But he is much more than just a fisherman with a graceful cast and a knack for locating prize silvery bonefish: He's a bluesman, historian, raconteur and truly a one-of-a-kind character. As the operator of the famous Bang Bang Club in the Bahamas—where the water is like glass and the sky cotton-candy pastels—this protagonist shares his stories and sharp instincts, sings constantly and finishes each day on the dock, practicing his perfect casts and watching the sun go down. (KK)



Carts of Darkness
Murray Siple
2007 Canada / Adventure & Culture / 59 min
Trailer: [Available online](#)

This film begins as a study of a group of homeless men in Vancouver, B.C., who race shopping carts down enormous hills. These men find themselves on the edge of society and numb their pain with alcohol or, thrillingly, with these perilous descents in purloined shopping carts. As the story proceeds, filmmaker Murray Siple gradually shares that he once craved his own adrenaline rush. He lets these dual narratives unfold in a way that manages to be both raw and thoughtful, coarse and kind. —DH



Deep/Shinsetsu
Masaki Sekiguchi
2008 Japan / Adventure / 4 min
Trailer: [Available online](#)

Sometimes, words aren't necessary. In Deep/Shinsetsu, filmmaker Masaki Sekiguchi lets the images speak for themselves. Filmed in Japan after what appears to be a 100-year storm, this short is a melodic and meditative portrait of skiing powder—chest-deep powder. (KK)



TBD
Unknown
TBD / TBD / TBD min
Trailer: Unknown

Yet to be determined. Show will be announced soon!