


On the trails of the glaciers

Directed by: Different Directors
Produced by: SD Cinematografica
Duration: 3 x 52 min.
Versions: 
Format: HD

Is it really possible to predict the fate of our planet? A famous photographer accompanied by a team of scientists has taken up the challenge: for the first time, three episodes from the most remote glaciers in the world provide visual evidence of the climate change that has occurred over the last century. Years of research have succeeded in uncovering unpublished photographs and film of the early explorations of the twentieth century. These invaluable images, scientifically compared with others taken today from the same perspective, allow experts to establish the "health" of some of the world's largest glaciers, reliable and sensitive indicators of global climate change. Every episode contains surprises. Most glaciers have retreated for kilometres, others have disappeared entirely, while some, on the contrary, are expanding. The adventure, difficulties and particular characteristics of the locations make each episode very different. This thrilling quest travels to Karakorum, the Caucasus, Patagonia, Alaska and the Alps in an attempt to understand the fate of our planet.



Episodes:

- On the trails of the glaciers: Mission to Karakorum
- On the trails of the glaciers: mission to Caucasus
- On the trails of the glaciers: Mission to Alaska

Episodes



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On the trails of the glaciers: Mission to Karakorum

A hundred years after the climbing and scientific expedition of Duke of the Abruzzi to the Baltoro glacier in Karakorum, a team of scientists and photographers, lead by photographer and alpinist Fabiano Ventura, is following in his footsteps with the aim of carrying out an accurate analysis of the climate change effects and to compile for the first time a visual record of the transformations that have taken place in the Baltoro glacier during the last century. By comparing Vittorio Sella's and Massimo Terzano's photographs with those of Fabiano Ventura, as well as through data collection on field and laboratory analysis, the purpose of the mission is to highlight the environmental and glacier changes that have taken place over the last century in the most sensitive and relevant system, that is cryosphere. At present, it is widely recognized at scientific as well as at public level that glaciers represent a reliable indicator of the global climate and environmental changes that our planet is experiencing.



On the trails of the glaciers: mission to Caucasus

After the successful expedition to Karakorum and the Baltoro glacier, photographer Fabiano Ventura and his team of experts continue their mission to study the effects of climate change on the world's largest glaciers. Their latest expedition takes them to the Georgian Caucasus, an area of incomparable beauty rendered inaccessible for decades by the Soviet regime and thus still unspoiled and timeless. For the first time, photographic evidence gathered by the explorers of the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century is compared with the same shots taken by Fabiano Ventura, then scientifically analysed to determine the "health" of some of the largest glaciers in the world.



On the trails of the glaciers: Mission to Alaska

After the successful expedition to Karakorum and to Caucasus, photographer Fabiano Ventura and his team of experts continue their mission to study the effects of climate change on the world's largest glaciers. Their next expedition will take them to Alaska. Thanks to the cold weather and the frequent precipitations, glaciers are found in Alaska at low altitudes; they pass through the long valleys and merge just before they arrive at the sea. Their particular characteristics make Alaska's glaciers very interesting from a scientific point of view. Once again, in this documentary, photographic evidence gathered by explorers of the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century is compared with the same shots taken by Fabiano Ventura. These are then scientifically analysed to determine the "health" of some of the largest glaciers in the world.



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