ABOUT JAMES BALOG

Extreme Ice features stunning photography and time-lapse videography of melting glaciers around the world, captured by American photographer James Balog. An avid mountaineer with a graduate degree in geography and geomorphology, Balog has traveled the world to photograph our changing planet, breaking conceptual and artistic ground on one of the most important issues of our era: human modification of Earth’s natural systems.

Balog, founder and director of the Earth Vision Institute and Extreme Ice Survey (EIS), was approached by the Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago in 2014 to work on an exhibition on climate change. As a result of that partnership, Extreme Ice features many photographs and time-lapse videos from James and his team.

For 35 years, Balog has captured visual evidence on melting glaciers and changing ice landscapes around the globe. He has become a global spokesman on the subject of climate change and human impact on the environment. He founded the Extreme Ice Survey, the most wide-ranging, ground-based, photographic study of glaciers ever conducted.

Balog and the EIS team were featured in the 2012 internationally acclaimed, award–winning documentary “Chasing Ice” and in the 2009 PBS/NOVA special “Extreme Ice.” “Chasing Ice” won an Emmy Award in 2014 and was short-listed for an Academy Award. It has been screened at the White House, in the U.S. Congress, in the U.K. House of Commons, and at the United Nations. It has been the subject of features on NBC Nightly News, ABC Nightline, The Late Show with David Letterman, PBS’s Moyers & Company, and Real Time with Bill Maher. National Geographic showcased the EIS in 2007, 2010 and 2013.

In 2009, he served as a U.S. and NASA representative at the United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP-15) in Copenhagen. In 2015, at COP-21 in Paris, he made numerous presentations on behalf of the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), The United Nations Foundation and Solutions COP21 at the Grand Palais.

Balog has given TED Talks and presented at many major public institutions including the White House, the U.S. Congress, NASA, the Environmental Protection Agency, Apple, Swarovski, the 2010 Winter Olympics, The North Face, Qualcomm, the Bloomberg New Energy Financial Summit, Cornell University, and Duke University.

Balog has been honored with many awards for his work, including the Royal Photographic Society Hood Medal, the Heinz Award, the Duke University LEAF Award, the Sam Rose ’58 and Julie Walters Prize for Global Environmental Activism at Dickinson College, an Honorary Doctor of Science Degree from the University of Alberta, the International League of Conservation Photographers (ILCP) League Award, and the American Geophysical Union Presidential Citation for Science and Society.

His work is featured in many public and private art collections, including the Museum of Fine Arts Houston, the Corcoran Gallery, the Peabody Essex Museum, the Denver Art Museum and the Gilman Paper Company. For more information on Balog, visit earthvisioninstitute.org, extremeicesurvey.org, gettingthepicture.info and jamesbalog.com.

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