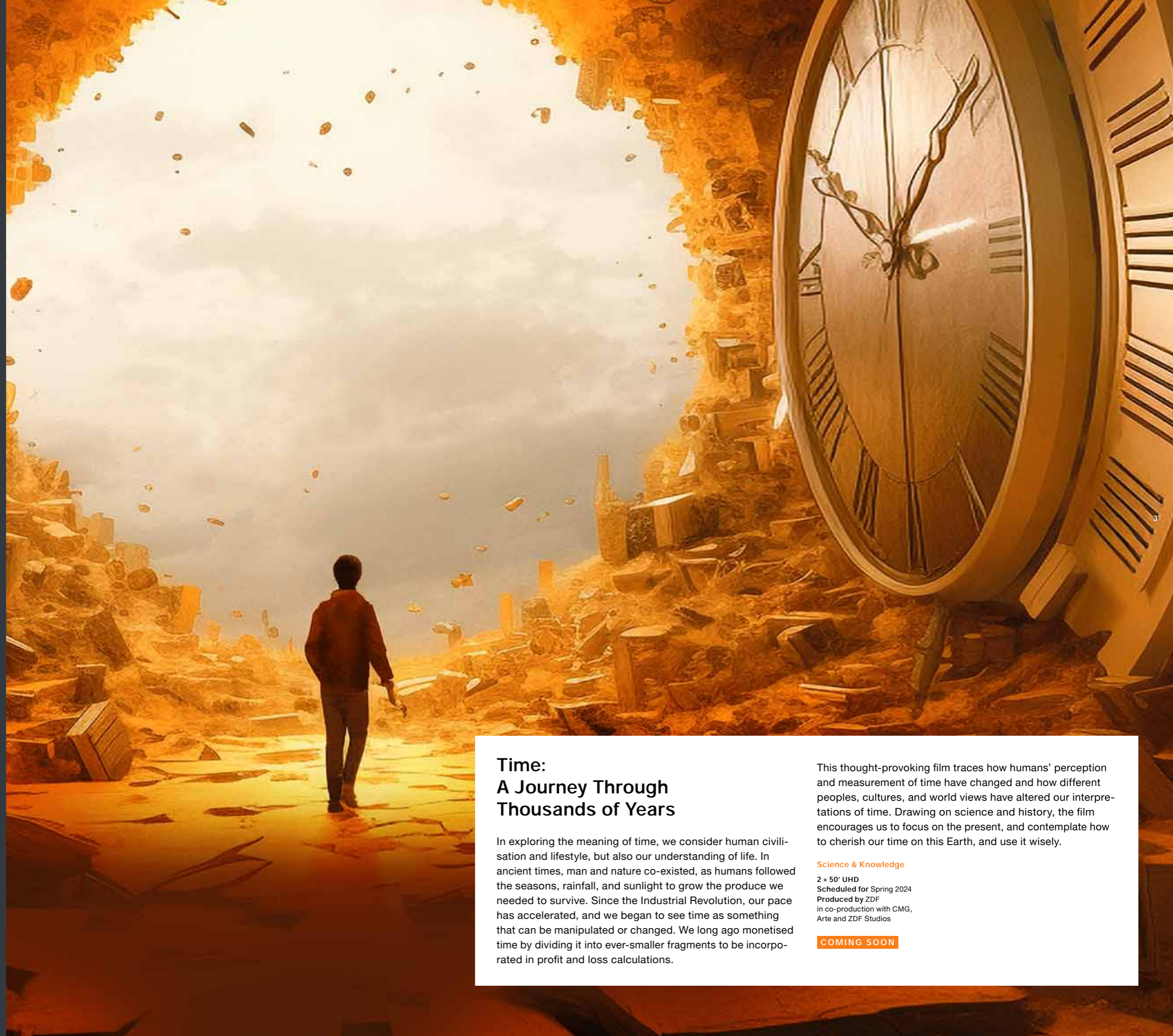




Selection
Spring / Summer 2024

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Time: A Journey Through Thousands of Years

In exploring the meaning of time, we consider human civilisation and lifestyle, but also our understanding of life. In ancient times, man and nature co-existed, as humans followed the seasons, rainfall, and sunlight to grow the produce we needed to survive. Since the Industrial Revolution, our pace has accelerated, and we began to see time as something that can be manipulated or changed. We long ago monetised time by dividing it into ever-smaller fragments to be incorporated in profit and loss calculations.

This thought-provoking film traces how humans' perception and measurement of time have changed and how different peoples, cultures, and world views have altered our interpretations of time. Drawing on science and history, the film encourages us to focus on the present, and contemplate how to cherish our time on this Earth, and use it wisely.

Science & Knowledge
2 x 50' UHD
Scheduled for Spring 2024
Produced by ZDF
in co-production with CMG,
Arte and ZDF Studios

COMING SOON

Science & Knowledge

Fateful Planet

⁴ The history of the planet we call home has been turbulent. The Earth has been affected by collisions in the solar system, asteroid strikes, devastating volcanic eruptions, and repeatedly by global climate crises. Some events have been particularly devastating. These are known as periods of mass extinction.

Scientists have identified five periods of mass extinction in the past 500 million years, during which around three-quarters of species died out over a short geological time. And yet, after each of these events, the Earth has recovered, becoming covered in water and habitable once more.

This five-part series chronicles the history of our planet from its dramatic birth, through the cosmic and terrestrial forces that have shaped it. We explore the rise of humanity, reconstructing the major events that created our unique habitat, and showing how life rebounded after catastrophic events.

Science & Knowledge

5 x 50' UHD
Scheduled for Spring 2024
Produced by ZDF Digital Medienproduktion
for Curiosity Stream
in association with ZDF Studios and ZDFinfo

COMING SOON



The Santorini Code

Santorini – an island with an explosive history. About 3,600 years ago, the volcano at its core erupted, leaving the ancient island of Thera devastated, its inhabitants gone, and their towns destroyed. Researchers have long wondered how the Minoan civilisation of Santorini and Crete, which had dominated the Aegean, lost its power, and whether its fall was a result of the volcanic eruption.

A groundbreaking international scientific expedition aims to discover how the Minoan eruption unfolded, and what it meant for the history of the Aegean. By extracting kilometres of drill cores from the seafloor for the first time, scientists hoped to decode the complete geological history of this ancient volcano, and make projections of its future activities and consequences. The researchers' insight could provide valuable

insights into the Santorini volcano, and others like it across the world.

Science & Knowledge

1 x 50'
Produced by K22 Film
in association with ZDF, Arte
and ZDF Studios

NEW



Tepui – Into the House of Gods

A forgotten world, isolated for millions of years – the table-top mountains in southern Venezuela. The indigenous people revere these 'Tepui', which means 'House of the Gods'. Scientists see them as 'islands of time', and an international and interdisciplinary research team, including a geologist, microbiologist, bioacoustician, and a biologist, set out to investigate life on one of the largest mountains.

The team explores whether the primaevial microbes that built elaborate rock foundations in an extensive cave system could be used for medical purposes, documents the diversity of

plants and animals, and considers how the country could promote nature conservation.

As the steep walls of the Tepui can only be reached by helicopter and the pitch-dark caves harbour dangers, the team faces a thrilling adventure at one of the most spectacular places on Earth.

Science & Knowledge

1 x 50' UHD
Produced by Gruppe 5 for ZDF
in association with Arte and ZDF Studios

NEW



Smart Swarms

Swarms – whether insects, animals, birds, or even humans – are powerful and complex coordinated actions between individuals, working together to benefit the community. Some see a higher intelligence in a swarm, while others doubt the wisdom of crowds. Swarm behaviour has even been equated with herd stupidity.

In this two-part documentary, internationally renowned scientists and experts from diverse research fields dispel prejudices and show the intelligence of swarms. Using fascinating high-speed recordings and thermal images of various natural swarms, the researchers attempt to break down swarm codes, explain strange collective behaviour, and explore how we can learn from nature to bring about astounding technological advances.

This series aims to help viewers understand the intelligence and organised chaos of swarms, even as they are mesmerised by the swarms' astonishing beauty.

Science & Knowledge

2 x 50' UHD
Produced by Spiegel TV for ZDF
in association with ZDF Studios

NEW



Size Matters

Why are insects small and planets big? Why is Earth not the size of Jupiter, and people not the size of mice? And what would happen if we changed all that?

This larger-than-life two-part special shows that, when it comes to the universe, size really does matter. We take the audience to a series of parallel worlds where sizes can be changed, to answer the biggest (and smallest) questions in the universe in the most unforgettable way.

Size Matters explores a fascinating web of scientific concepts to uncover not just why things are as they are, but also why they could never be any different. Along the way, we discover why the sun and the planets are the size they are, how insects could one day be giant, the size of the biggest building possible, and how a miniature person would be almost superhuman.

Science & Knowledge

2 x 50' UHD
Produced by Screen Glue
for ZDF Studios and ZDF
in association with Arte

AVAILABLE



Aircrash Confidential | S03

This fascinating show reveals the dramatic investigations into air accidents around the world. Featuring in-depth interviews with investigators, first-hand testimony from survivors and witnesses, and premium dramatic reconstruction, *Aircrash Confidential* unravels the causes of some of the most notorious events in aviation history.

We explore stories such as the pilot who, when flying across the Atlantic in 2021, suffered a catastrophic fuel leak, forcing him to glide the passenger plane for nineteen minutes. Or when a jet plane crashed in mysterious circumstances in California, and investigators found a loaded gun and a human finger among the wreckage. From disastrous descents to the Nevada Triangle, these are the stories of how airline safety and design have evolved to keep us all safe as we travel the skies.

Science & Knowledge

6 x 50'
Produced by World Media Rights
for ZDF Studios and Quest UK
in association with Nine Australia

AVAILABLE



Underworld

Underworld is a cave exploration series shot in five global locations. At the heart of every visually stunning episode is an investigation into the caves' unique landscape, local culture, mythology, and mysteries. Richard 'Roo' Walters uses pioneering 3D laser-scanning technology to explore, for example, why clouds form inside the giant Chinese cave called Cloud Ladder Hall.

The expedition also explores underworld stories, shedding light on the science and natural history of the caverns. Experienced cavers, indigenous people, and scientific experts are our trusted guides. Extraordinary UHD footage brings this subterranean world to life, while GoPros and helmet cameras provide an intense POV.

From the final refuges of the Neanderthals in Gibraltar to Earth's largest caves in China, these underground adventures will build a detailed picture of the unique world hidden beneath our feet.

Science & Knowledge

5 x 50'
Produced by Off The Fence for Curiosity Stream
in co-production with ZDF Studios and Youku
in association with Wingsight

AVAILABLE

History & Biographies

10 The Lost Women Spies

In 2000, boxes containing top-secret files were found in a garden shed in Cornwall. They detailed the lives and code names of Britain's first female agents sent to the front line during the war. The British spymistress, Vera Atkins, had committed treason by keeping the papers, but she had a reason for doing so.

During the war, Prime Minister Churchill desperately needed foreign agents, and though women were not allowed to fight on the front line, they could be sent behind enemy lines as spies. Vera was put in charge of the female spies, and when many of them went missing during the war, never to return, she was determined to find out their fate – in defiance of the British authorities.

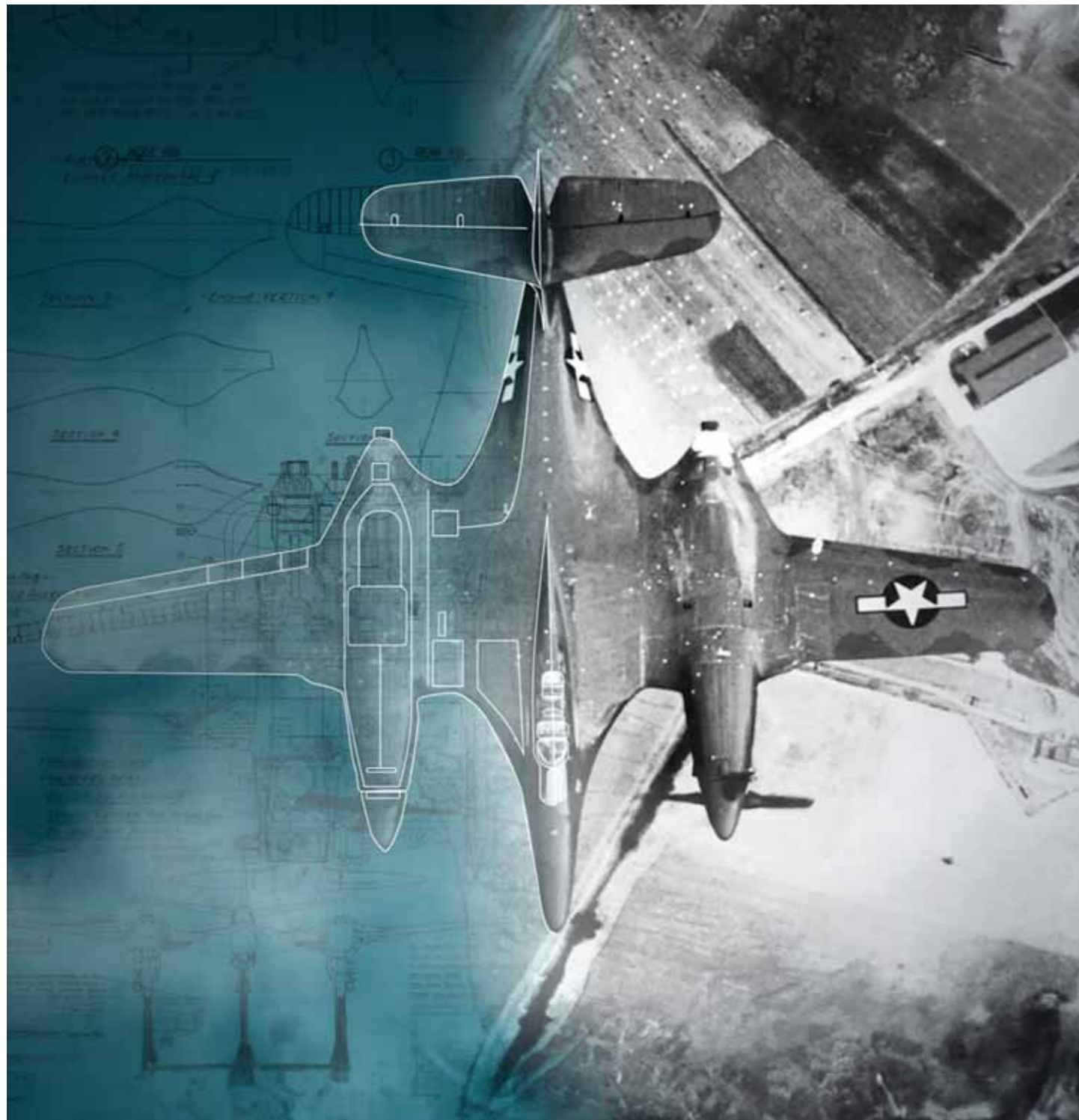
Vera's files were kept sealed until after she died, but the story of the female spies and the spymistress who led them, which has remained secret for over fifty years, can now be revealed.

History & Biographies

6 x 50'
Produced by World Media Rights
for ZDF Studios

NEW





Secret Weapons of World War II

Secret Weapons of World War II explores the desperate weapons race fought by nations worldwide to gain an advantage over their adversaries. Incendiary bats, flying wings, rubber tanks, and guns that shoot around corners – in wartime, there is no such thing as a bad idea, but not all of these ideas worked or even made it beyond the planning stage.

This riveting series tells the story of the weapons that changed history, and still impact our daily lives. Like the small top-secret device invented to improve radar, the magnetron – now found in most kitchens as a microwave. Learn about the inventions born out of desperation that resulted in jet engines, rockets, lasers, and computers. Beyond the apparent silliness of pigeon bombs and death rays,

this fascinating series highlights innovative weaponry developed during the war and the resulting transformative technological revolution.

History & Biographies
6 x 50'
Produced by WildBear Entertainment
in association with RTL, Viasat and ZDF Studios

NEW



History of Weapons

The 10-episode documentary series *History of Weapons* tells the stories of the weaponry that took leading roles in historical battles. It reveals the arms developments that influenced technical progress, and investigates humankind's desperate efforts to tame the destructive power of ever new instruments of war. *History of Weapons* uncovers the connection between the development of a new military device and the aftermath of its usage – dynamics that shaped the fates of millions.

History & Biographies
10 x 50'
Produced by Story House Productions
for ZDF and ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE



War Gamers

World War Two. Nazi Germany's U-boats bring Britain to the brink of starvation by sinking merchant ships in the Atlantic. The U-boats' tactics are a closely guarded secret, and the Royal Navy struggles to defeat them. The Navy turns to a team of young women – the Wrens – to protect vital Atlantic shipping routes. By war-gaming sea battles on a giant board, these women attempt to decipher the U-boats' tactics and do something the men of the Royal Navy could not – find ways to sink the U-boats.

History & Biographies
6 x 50'
Produced by World Media Rights
for Curiosity Stream
in association with ZDF Studios and History

AVAILABLE



Frontlines

Frontlines takes you deep into the heart of battle to reveal the critical turning points in some of WWII's most decisive confrontations, from the killing fields of Normandy to the hazardous mountains of Italy, over the vast Pacific Ocean and into devastated Berlin. Compelling first-person testimony from all sides, cutting-edge analysis, location demonstrations and vivid storytelling dispel the myths to provide new insights into the dramatic events that shaped the outcome of the war.

History & Biographies
8 x 50'
Produced by Impossible Factual
in association with ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE

OPEN
FOR CO-PRODUCTION

HITLER'S



6 x 50'

Entourage and enablers: the people who served Hitler

They served at the pleasure of their leader, but in the fight for power and recognition, their alliances were short-lived. The six-part documentary *Hitler's Entourage* sheds light on the dictator's closest associates, Joseph Goebbels, Herman Göring, Albert Speer, Rudolf Hess, Martin Bormann, and Hitler's mistress, Eva Braun. The documentary draws on diaries, private records, and the latest research to provide insight into the intrigues, conflicts, and the dark psychological depths of the Nazi elite.

Produced by Doclights for ZDFinfo in association with ZDF Studios



Beyond the Myth: The SS Unveiled

The SS was the Nazi state's instrument of domination and oppression, responsible for the intelligence services and the police. The SS committed a horrific range of atrocities, including the Holocaust, the persecution of political opponents, and brutal war crimes. Millions of people were victims of the *Schutzstaffel*, and many of the perpetrators were unrepentant to the end.

This six-part documentary provides a comprehensive overview of the SS, describing how a small group of thugs rose to become the most feared organ in the Nazi state. With the help of international experts, the film examines common myths about the organisation. Interviews with eyewitnesses and unapologetic perpetrators take us closer to the psyche of the SS supporters in an attempt to make the inconceivable comprehensible.

History & Biographies

6 x 50'
Produced by Doclights
for ZDF and ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE



The Abyss: Rise and Fall of the Nazis

Europe in the 1920s and 1930s – a continent licks its wounds after the devastation of World War I. In this fertile breeding ground for dissent, authoritarian regimes are on the rise.

The Abyss: Rise and Fall of the Nazis takes a fresh look at the Third Reich from a global and current perspective. It tells us how the Nazis first conquered Germany and then half of Europe within a few years. How could that be, with the horrors of World War I still so fresh? Why did it take so long before they were stopped? A combination of previously unpublished archive material, historical sources, and an international team of experts paint a new picture of Hitler's regime.

The series unpacks the complex sequence of events that enabled the new regime, and allowed violence and brutality to unfold on an unbelievable scale. A view of history with direct relevance to the world today.

History & Biographies

10 x 50'
Produced by ECO Media TV Produktion
in association with ZDF Studios for ZDFinfo

AVAILABLE



Symbols of Evil

During an excavation in 1871, an archaeologist discovered an unusual symbol – a cross with bent arms. He had no idea that, within a few years, this symbol would be known as a 'swastika' and would come to represent hatred, destruction, and the evils of the Holocaust. Though Hitler claimed to have designed the symbol, it originally meant 'happiness'.

Today, ideologies use symbols for their own purposes. From the centuries-old 'Z' on Russian tanks that rolled into Ukraine in 2023 to the mysterious 'Q' conspiracy theorists who stormed the US Capitol on January 6, 2021, symbols have always been used to rally people in the pursuit of a common goal.

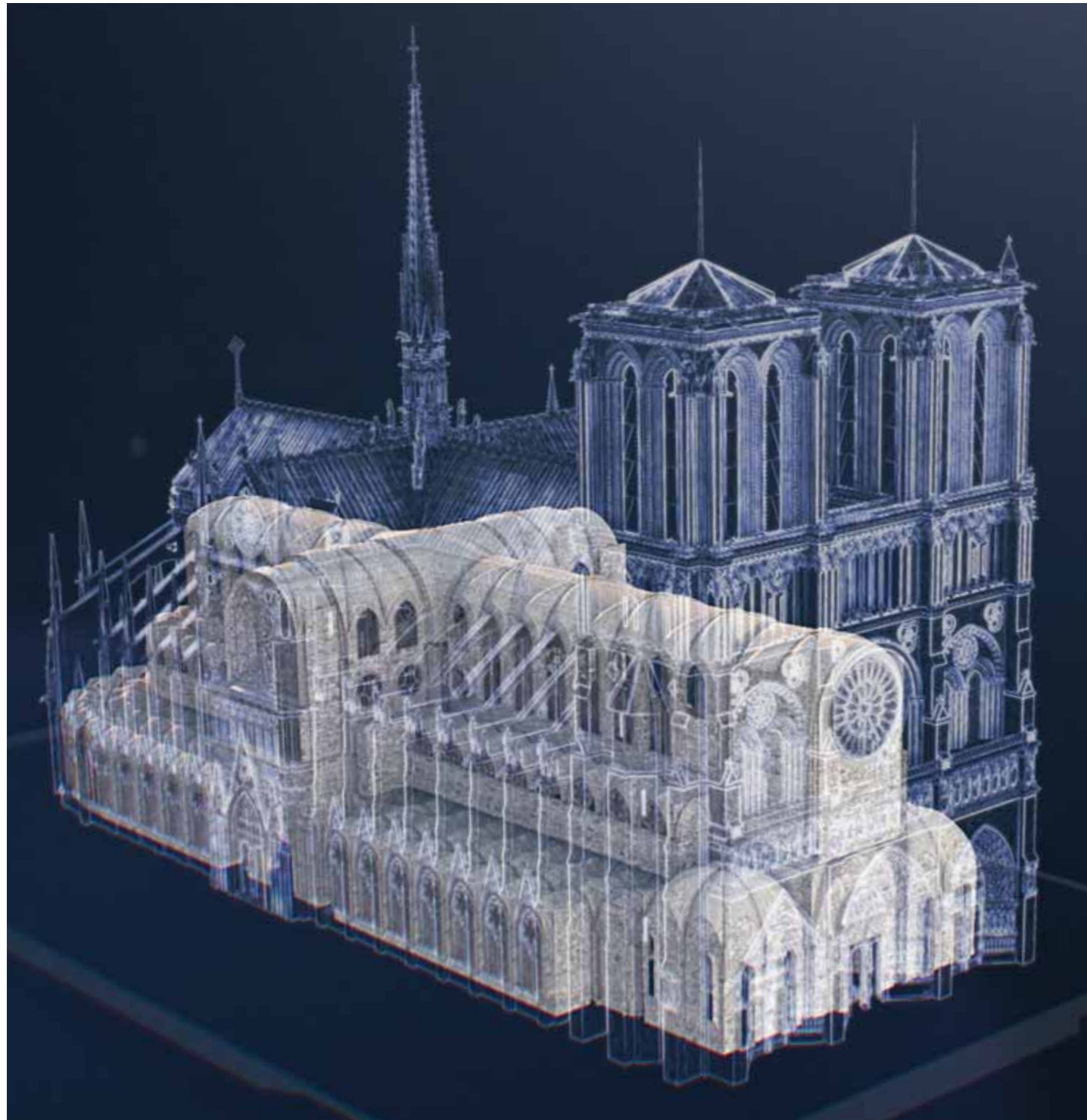
This documentary examines the symbols under which people have been – and still

are being – hounded and killed. The symbols often have origins far from the meaning they later carry, but their myth remains. And with it, the danger that emanates from them.

History & Biographies

1 x 50'
Produced by Februar Film for ZDF
in association with ZDF Studios

NEW



Ancient Superstructures | S03

Around the world, and throughout time, people have built mythical and mysterious structures, from Tikal in Guatemala, the Holy Sepulchre in Israel, Chichen Itza in Mexico, the Sphinx in Egypt, Notre Dame de Paris, and the Château de Chambord.

In the third season of *Ancient Superstructures*, we delve into the more legendary ancient structures to decipher their secrets.

These monuments impress with their immense size and remarkable architecture.

How and why were they built, what makes them significant, and how have they survived the centuries? Beyond the superficial appearance, what are the mysteries that surround them? In aerial and satellite images, using Lidar to reveal the terrain on which they are built, we explore each structure, before moving in closer to film

on a microscopic scale, to understand the materials used and the challenges of soil, ageing, and preservation.

History & Biographies

14 x 50'
S01 (4 EP), S02 (4 EP), S03 (6 EP)
Produced by Pernel Media
in association with RMC Découverte,
Histoire and ZDF Studios

NEW



Myths: The Greatest Mysteries of Humanity | S03

Myths have captivated us for thousands of years. We puzzle over unexplained phenomena, mysterious places, and superhuman heroes. What if the legends are more than just fiction? Across the globe, researchers are working to solve the greatest mysteries of all time.

In each episode of the series *Myths: The Greatest Mysteries of Humanity*, scientists uncover ancient tombs, examine artefacts, and go on expeditions in search of the origins of historical legends and myths.

From biblical stories to ancient mysteries, historical figures to modern urban legends, the series explores phenomena such as The Lost Tribes of Israel, the search for El Dorado, one of the most prominent queens of antiquity, Cleopatra, Bigfoot and Yeti, and even zombies. Archaeologists, historians, and adventurers try to unravel the myths of inexplicable events and ancient legends.

History & Biographies

20 x 50' and 1 x 50' Special
S01 (5 EP), S02 (5 EP), S03 (10 EP)
Produced by Story House Productions
for ZDFInfo in association with ZDF Studios

NEW



Truth and Lies

The history of humankind is also a history of the struggle between truth and lies. For centuries, lies have been used to achieve economic, political, and personal goals. This battle is fought with the pen, keyboard, and camera, but also with weapons, torture, and terror. And those most skilled in using the latest technology control the perception of truth.

The six-part documentary reveals how our understanding of history was shaped by the use of lies, and highlights the role of the media. We explore how faith is used to enforce secular interests, how lies are used in wartime to justify bloodshed, how conspiracy theories are used to corrupt and create stereotypes, and how money can decide which truth will prevail.

Powerful people will always try to spread their own truth, but when their lies are revealed, the resulting scandal can not only stir up society, but also lead to social change.

History & Biographies

6 x 50'
Produced by Taglicht Media
and Rezolution Pictures
in association with ZDFInfo, TV Ontario,
Knowledge and ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE

OPEN
FOR CO-PRODUCTION

THE LA BUSE TREASURE HUNT

The dig for the 300-year-old treasure
of a French pirate

1 x 50'

When Olivier Levasseur, a French pirate nicknamed La Buse (The Buzzard), was executed in 1730, legend has it that he threw a cryptogram into the crowd and cried, "Find my treasure, he who can!". Three centuries later, the Swiss historian, investigator, and crossword writer Daniel Krieg solved the riddle to reveal a treasure map.

The documentary follows Krieg's team, including an archaeologist and a historian, to an island in the Indian Ocean as they dig for hidden treasure allegedly worth EUR 1.2 billion today.

Produced by Spiegel TV for ZDF in association with SF and ZDF Studios





The Lost Scrolls of Vesuvius

Destroyed, and yet preserved by the volcanic eruption that annihilated Pompeii, the Roman town of Herculaneum is home to the only known surviving Roman library – and a treasure more precious than gold. Excavations of a luxurious villa in the 1750s revealed unopened papyrus scrolls that could transform our understanding of the ancient Greeks and Romans – if only we could read them. As fragile as butterfly wings, even the most careful attempts at opening the scrolls reduced them to dust, frustrating classical scholars for centuries. Until now.

Using cutting-edge technology and AI, experts may soon be able to read undiscovered ancient texts from philosophers and playwrights. With exclusive access, *The Lost Scrolls of Vesuvius* interviews experts, and uses CGI technology to paint a vibrant picture of the stunning villa and tell the story of one of ancient Rome's most powerful dynasties.

History & Biographies

1 x 50' UHD
Produced by Impossible Factual and WNET Group production in association with Channel 5, the WNET Group, ZDF Studios and France Télévision

NEW

History of Love

As long as humans have lived on Earth, they have been having sex. But what about love? When did love become part of our world? And how has it changed since we stopped living in trees? This five-part documentary series explains how love and sex have developed throughout human history.

The programme explores how love and sex have shaped humanity, and how society has shaped love and sex. The series points out that societal narratives and ideas have always influenced human sexuality, and that culture forbids what biology allows.

Each episode observes how this tension has developed in a different era of human history – from the Stone Age via Antiquity, the Middle Ages, and the Early Modern Age up to the present.

Combining evocative reconstructions, innovative CGI, and the expertise of world-leading scientists, this captivating series provides a nuanced understanding of the ever-evolving history of love.

History & Biographies

5 x 50'
Scheduled for Spring 2024
Produced by taglicht media for ZDFinfo in association with ZDF Studios

COMING SOON





Lost World of the Hanging Gardens

Once the world's largest and most important settlement, the Assyrian city of Nineveh is being newly discovered. This film tells a dramatic, engaging, and inspiring story of archaeology, history, and the human spirit, set against the backdrop of a nation rebuilding after war.

Why did this great city disappear? And could it also be the site of the last lost wonder of the ancient world, the Hanging Gardens of Babylon? The film features emotional and inspiring human stories, and showcases remarkable archaeological breakthroughs and innovative forensics to reveal how newly-won insights are helping Iraqis reclaim their history.

Lost World of the Hanging Gardens uncovers the most complete picture we have ever had of ancient Nineveh – the capital of one of the greatest civilisations, and the world's first genuine superpower, the Assyrians.

History & Biographies

1 x 50'
 Scheduled for Spring 2024
 Produced by Lion Television
 in association with France Télévision, Thirteen/WNET,
 SVT, CBC, ZDFinfo and ZDF Studios

COMING SOON



Forsaken Places

Historic places – forgotten, threatened, and yet still threatening. *Forsaken Places* brings the monuments of significant historical eras back to life, whether they were made of steel, poured in concrete, or blasted out of a mountain. These sites are also full of personal stories, told to us by contemporary witnesses, providing up-close and personal accounts of natural disasters, wars, or global catastrophes – events that took a toll on the landmarks, and the people who lived there.

In four episodes, we visit twelve *Forsaken Places* – military bases, prestigious buildings, tourist resorts, and sanatoriums. We rediscover these mysterious places through the people who used to live and work there. They take us on an educational and emotional journey through their personal histories, framed within the context of the overarching historical narrative.

History & Biographies

4 x 50'
 Produced by Cinecentrum for ZDFinfo
 in association with ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE



Anatomy of a Crucifixion

When human remains were found in a routine dig in the English countryside, the archaeological team didn't see anything out of the ordinary. It wasn't until the remains from the Cambridgeshire Fens were washed and more closely examined that something highly unusual was revealed – a nail through the heel bone of one of the skeletons. Could this be evidence of a Roman crucifixion? If so, it would be a sensation. The only previous confirmed example is from a 1960s excavation in Jerusalem.

Bringing together renowned experts, including osteo-archaeologist Dr Corinne Duhig and biologist Professor Ben Garrod, *Anatomy of a Crucifixion* sets out to find out the identity of this person, how they lived, and why they were sentenced to die a horrible death. The film culminates with the first full forensic facial reconstruction of a Roman crucifixion victim, conducted by world-leading expert Joe Mullins.

History & Biographies

1 x 50' UHD
 Produced by Impossible Factual
 and The WNET Group
 in association with ZDF Studios,
 ZDF and Arte

NEW



Crime Scene: Antiquity

Crime is as old as humanity itself. And yet, some crimes continue to fascinate us to this day – often because they remain unsolved. Criss-crossing the globe, *Crime Scene: Antiquity* explores atrocities from across the centuries, including ones that changed the course of history. From the mysterious death of a young Egyptian pharaoh to the murder of an infamous glacier mummy, and the sinister massacre in a Swedish castle, the perpetrators of these historical misdeeds have remained unknown. Until now.

With the use of modern forensics and experimental archaeological methods, a team of experts, including profilers, weapons experts, geneticists, and historians, aim to solve these ancient cases and identify the perpetrators.

History & Biographies

5 x 50'
 Produced by taglicht media Film-
 und Fernsehproduktion for ZDFinfo
 in association with ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE

OPEN
FOR CO-PRODUCTION

Dark Greece tells the dark story of the civilisation that is considered the cradle of our culture. When we think of ancient Greece, we think of wisdom, philosophy, and democracy. But behind this illustrious façade hid a society based on slavery and violence that worshipped eccentric gods. In five chronological episodes, *Dark Greece* reveals not only the bright, but also the sinister side of ancient Greece, from its earliest days through to Hellenism.

Produced by Gruppe 5 for ZDFinfo in association with ZDF Studios

DARK GREECE

5x50'

Beyond democracy and philosophy – ancient Greece's dark history



Unearthed – The Mystery of the Shaman Woman

One of the most significant cases in European archaeology is the grave of the shaman of Bad Dürrenberg, a key finding of the last hunter-gatherer groups. From a time when there were no written records, this site was first researched by the Nazis, who saw a physically strong male warrior from an ‘original Aryan race’ in the buried person. It was, in fact, the most powerful woman of her time.

The latest research shows that she was dark-skinned, had physical deformities, and was a spiritual leader. The film – using high-end CGI and motion capture – compares the

researchers of the Nazi era, who misrepresented and instrumentalised their findings, to today’s researchers, who meticulously compile findings and evidence, and use cross-disciplinary methods to examine and evaluate them. It also substantiates the theory of the powerful roles women played in prehistoric times.

The story of this woman, buried with a baby in her arms, still fascinates us 9,000 years after her death.

History & Biographies

1 x 50’
Scheduled for Spring 2024
Produced by South & Browse for ZDF
in association with Arte and ZDF Studios

COMING SOON



Planet of Treasures

The ancient world knew seven wonders of the world, and today UNESCO recognises more than a thousand magnificent treasures. We explore the UNESCO World Heritage Sites with the historian Sir Christopher Clark, as he highlights man-made masterpieces, natural monuments, cultural achievements, and universal inventions. This six-part series aims to introduce the World Heritage Sites to a wider audience while taking viewers on a breathtaking journey to see the world’s most captivating places.

History & Biographies

6 x 50’ hosted and 3 x 50’ presenterless
Produced by interscience film for ZDF
in association with ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE



The Year that Rocked the World

The Year that Rocked the World is a five-part series that takes us back to iconic years in human history, years that stand out due to shocking events, incredible human achievements, or life-changing moments. Told through the personal memories of expert contributors, combined with amazing archive footage, this series relives iconic global moments with stories from the realms of politics, crime, natural disasters, celebrity news, and scientific breakthroughs.

History & Biographies

5 x 50’
Produced by Off the Fence
for Curiosity Stream
in association with ZDF Studios and ZDFinfo

AVAILABLE



The Lost Pirate Kingdom

Pirates – the stuff of myth and legend, swashbuckling outlaws who brought murder and mayhem to the high seas. But these villains were not a Hollywood invention; they were all too real. The true ‘Pirates of the Caribbean’ struck terror into the world’s most powerful empires, threatening trade, and liberating slaves. The Robin Hoods of the sea changed the course of history by creating their own democratic republic in Nassau, and their fight for freedom paved the way for American independence.

History & Biographies

6 x 50’
Produced by World Media Rights
in association with Netflix and ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE

Wildlife & Nature

30

Wild Talk

A new five-part wildlife and science series explores the latest exciting research on animal communication that decodes the complex languages of animals and discovers that they are just as talkative as humans. Each episode reveals how animals communicate, showcasing the scientists at the heart of this research, and the technology they are using – from computer simulations to AI programme, and sophisticated recording devices, such as bat detectors.

We reveal how king penguins use a special call to locate their young, and how researchers are trying to decode the different barks of dogs. We also look at the waggle dance that honeybees use to communicate where food sources are located, and how butterflies talk by using UV patterns on their wings.

At last, we can eavesdrop on the secret conversations going on all around us.

Wildlife & Nature

5 x 50'
Scheduled for Spring 2024
Produced by Off the Fence for ZDF Studios
in association with ZDF and Arte

COMING SOON



31



Just Animals | S03

In the third season of this popular series, we take a close look at another collection of amazing animals in their natural habitat.

Each episode focuses on one animal, such as the iconic Australian koala, the Equidae family of hoofed mammals that include horses, asses, donkeys, and zebras, and the intelligent and vibrant members of the parrot family. Each episode meticulously portrays their physical traits, sensory capabilities, complex communication methods, exceptional behaviours, and remarkable adaptations.

We observe these animals from the moment of their birth and watch them grow, while learning about their past and present, and what is being done to ensure they survive and thrive in the future. *Just Animals* is an enthralling adventure for animal enthusiasts, a comprehensive exploration guaranteed to captivate, educate, and inspire.

Wildlife & Nature

30 x 50'
S01 (10 EP), S02 (10 EP), S03 (10 EP)
Produced by WildBear Entertainment
in association with ZDF Studios

NEW



Backyard Bears of Transylvania

An ancient bear cult has survived, deep in the Transylvanian forests, where Europe's greatest land predator is a symbol of rebirth. Modern Romania has not lost its fascination with bears that peaked under Ceausescu, with a breeding programme designed to satisfy the dictator's hunting obsession. His regime is history, but the bears are still there – and with ever-increasing numbers, conflict is unavoidable. We follow a female bear and her three cubs as they move from the mountains into town.

Wildlife & Nature

1 x 50' UHD
Produced by Doclights
in association with NDR, WDR, Arte and Terra Mater

NEW



Equator – The Line of Life

The Equator wraps Earth in a 40,000 kilometre ribbon of sunlight, abundance and astonishing nature. Scientists refer to it as the 'cradle of life' because all species first arose here, and as the 'museum of life' because rarely do creatures here go extinct. Now, as our warmest region gets hotter, the Equatorial paradise is changing. *Equator – The Line of Life* is an engrossing series that explores that change while reveling in the beauty of this extraordinary place.

Wildlife & Nature

12 x 50' or 3 x 50' UHD
Produced by Primitive Entertainment and Spiegel TV
in association with ZDF, Arte, NHK, Discovery Canada
and ZDF Studios

AVAILABLE



Africa from Above

Witness Africa like never before. Taking our cameras to new heights, we experience Earth's most incredible continent from a fresh perspective. Each episode takes viewers on a spectacular aerial adventure, across Africa's most awe-inspiring countries, soaring over the natural wonders and unique vistas that define this continent's iconic identity. This series celebrates the people who live in these nations and offers a 'bird's eye' view of the diverse wildlife that roam the continent.

Wildlife & Nature

10 x 50' or 3 x 50' UHD
Produced by Off the Fence
for ZDF Studios
in association with ZDF, Arte,
ORF and UKTV

AVAILABLE

2x50' UHD

RISE OF BIRDS

DINOSAURS AMONG US

Did you know that pigeons descend from the same branch as the T-Rex? After surviving the last mass extinction event, birds have become one of the most diverse species on Earth.

Spectacular CGI effects bring extinct birds and dinosaurs back to life, while experts in China, the US, Germany, Denmark, Holland, Spain, France, and the UK explore the latest discoveries and ongoing research into how birds use their plumage, colours, birdsong, and wings to become the undisputed masters of the skies.

Produced by Pernel Media in association with France Télévision, Ushuaia TV, WGBH/NOVA, Radio Canada, NHK, CCTV9 and ZDF Studios



Spectre of the Jungle

With a wingspan of one metre, the *Vampyrum spectrum* bat is one of the largest on Earth. It is a wild predator, hunting birds, mammals such as tree squirrels, and even other bats. However, among the bat species, the mysterious *Vampyrum spectrum* poses a unique challenge as little is known about it and its life deep in the rainforests of South America.

We accompany an international team of bat researchers, led by Antoniya Hubancheva. Equipped with innovative technology, the team embarks on an expedition into the heart of the South American jungle, aiming to unravel the secrets of the elusive and never-before-filmed creatures.

Using AI and specialised data tags, we follow the creatures during their hunting flights, finally securing images and insights never before captured.

Wildlife & Nature

2 x 50' UHD
Scheduled for Autumn 2024
Produced by Blue Paw Artists
in association with ZDF Studios,
ZDF and Arte

IN PRODUCTION

Gift from the Ice – Japan's Wild North

The Shiretoko National Park, on the northern tip of the Japanese peninsula, is a little-known paradise for wild animals and birds. D deservedly designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the park's stunning biodiversity relies on the delicate balance of the changing seasons, and the drifting pack ice that descends in winter.

Hundreds of brown bears roam through the park in autumn, gathering on the riverbanks to catch migrating salmon. Winter brings freezing temperatures and the return of Steller's Sea Eagles from Russia, who dive between the few remaining gaps in the pack ice to catch fish, as deceptively angelic sea snails hunt their prey. When the ice melts in spring, herring feed on the blooming plankton, enticing shearwater seabirds from Australia, fin whales, and orcas. With climate change altering the natural habitat of these creatures, what will become of Japan's biodiversity hotspot?

Wildlife & Nature

1 x 50' UHD
Produced by NHK and Doclights
in association with NDR, Arte and ORF

NEW

The Margay and Me

The survival story of a margay, one of the least known and rarely filmed wildcats, and the spectacular coming-of-age story of her companion, a young man called Falton. The margay and Falton are native to the wild jungle of Guyana in South America. The margay was an orphan, snatched from the wild but later rescued. Falton was raised in the rainforest and taught to live as part of the jungle, but like so many young men, he was lured by promises of wealth and cruelly abused in an illegal goldmine.

These two lost souls return to their home, the jungle, so Falton can teach the motherless cat how to survive. A dangerous undertaking, as no one – neither scientists nor indigenous people – knew anything about the secret life of the mysterious margay.

An entrancing tale of two companions, torn from their roots, who embark on a journey of discovery high up in the rainforest canopy, home of the margay.

Wildlife & Nature

1 x 50' UHD
Produced by Blue Paw Artists
in association with ZDF Studios

NEW

Guyana: Jaguar – Jungle Icon of Guyana

Nestled in the unexplored depths of South America, the tropical rainforests of Guyana remain largely unknown. The secrets of this unspoiled paradise are less well-known than those of the Amazon, despite it being home to a breathtaking array of species. The king of this wildlife diversity, the jaguar, sits enthroned in the shadow of the jungle.

This young male is ready to embark upon the most important mission of his life. He must find a kingdom of his own. His journey will take him through changing habitats, each with its own cast of animal characters. He will face other top predators, such as majestic caimans, impressive arapaima, and playful giant otters. Viewers have a front-row seat as the jaguar fights for his place at the top of the jungle hierarchy.

Jaguar – Jungle Icon of Guyana is available as an additional stand-alone Blue Chip Special to the series *Guyana*.

Wildlife & Nature

3 x 50' and 1 x 50' Blue Chip Special
Produced by Blue Paw Artists
in association with ZDF and Arte for ZDF Studios

NEW EPISODE / BLUE CHIP SPECIAL



